

De Michelis arrives in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis arrived in Israel Wednesday to discuss Europe's role in a proposed Middle East peace conference. Talks will also centre on Israel's economic integration into the European Community when the group of nations becomes a single market in 1992, foreign ministry officials said. Mr. De Michelis was greeted by his Israeli counterpart, David Levy, at the Ben Gurion international airport near Tel Aviv, but neither spoke to reporters. Mr. De Michelis was to meet with President Chaim Herzog, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Defence Minister Moshe Arens and Shimon Peres, leader of the opposition Labour Party, during his two-day visit. The Italian visitor will also meet with Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Mr. De Michelis has visited Israel in the past as a member of the so-called "troika," which is made up of the past, present and future heads of the European Community (EC). The United States and the Soviet Union have agreed to sponsor a regional peace conference, tentatively scheduled for October. European nations have sought a role in the talks. Israel has agreed that the EC can send an observer.



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S. Arabia lifts ban on transit for Jordanians

AMMAN (J.T.) — Saudi Arabia has eased travel restrictions on Jordanians in effect since the Gulf crisis, according to an announcement by the Saudi embassy.

Saudi Arabia, in retaliation for Jordan's stand during the conflict, prevented Jordanians working in Gulf states from crossing its territory by land.

Jordanians will be able to travel in transit through Saudi territory to other Arab Gulf states and Yemen," the Jordan News Agency quoted a Saudi embassy statement as saying. The announcement said the Saudi government has allowed Jordanians working in the Gulf states and Yemen to get transit visas from the embassy here.

The decision included those whose applications for visas were turned down by the embassy, the announcement added.

Foreign Minister Abdullah Ensour welcomed the decision and described it as a positive step. He expressed thanks for the Saudi government for responding positively to the Jordanian government's request in this regard.

Dr. Ensour voiced hope that relations between Jordan and Saudi Arabia will improve "for the best of the two brotherly peoples and the Arab Nation and its interests."

Around 4,000 Jordanians had to leave their cars and other belongings in Amman and fly back, Dr. Ensour said.

The Saudi embassy will issue transit visas for Jordanians to allow them to go back to their jobs by land," Dr. Ensour told Reuters.

"We welcome this initiative as a step in the right direction."

The Saudi embassy confirmed the new rules and Arab diplomats said they believed the decision would help ease the strain relations between the two countries.

Saudi Arabia, which withdrew its ambassador to Jordan at the height of the crisis, has not returned him yet although Amman sent its envoy back to Riyadh in October.

Iraqi infants dying of malnutrition

NICOSIA (AP) — The Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported Wednesday that 76 newborn infants died in northern Iraq city last month because of food shortages resulting from economic sanctions. The agency, in a dispatch from Mosul monitored in Nicosia, also said 816 cases of miscarriage were reported in July and August and that these were attributed mainly to "defiant overflight by U.S. warplanes."

Iraq has complained to the United Nations that U.S. and other allied warplanes were penetrating its airspace in low sorties in violation of the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire. The INA dispatch quoted Dr. Nada Ramzi Al Omari, a gynaecologist at the Mosul Hospital, as saying she had registered 424 cases of miscarriage caused by the aircraft overflights and the economic blockade in the past two months.

He said talks with groups based in Damascus and with the fundamental movement Hamas to try to persuade them to attend the PNC session had made no progress.

Gorbachev pushes bid to shift power to republics

Decree to approve Baltic independence

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The basic for discussion," which means that amendments to the resolution can still be made.

Mr. Gorbachev failed to win a subsequent vote to accept for discussion a draft law on the measures. That motion received a simple majority, 1,200-275, but failed to win the two-thirds approval from the 2,250-member body that apparently was necessary.

"We are not adopting the law. We are only adopting it as a basis for discussion," he said. But a chorus of shouts erupted from the floor.

"All right, all right," Mr. Gorbachev said.

"The law is still up in the air,"

(Continued on page 5)

Shamir justifies terrorist past

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, recalling his days as a guerrilla commander, said Wednesday that Jews were justified in using terrorism to win statehood, but that Palestinians are not.

"Personal terrorism is a way of fighting that is acceptable under certain conditions and by certain movements," said Mr. Shamir.

In the interview, Mr. Shamir dropped his customary reticence about the past and defended Lehi's actions at some length.

"Under the conditions that existed then, when the Jewish people were without a voice, without a homeland, without military force, vulnerable, totally abandoned by the whole world, there was justification and also usefulness in using this extreme method, to hurt those people who were responsible for what was being done to the Jewish people," Mr. Shamir said.

Asked to compare Lehi with Palestinian guerrilla groups fighting for independence, Mr. Shamir said: "Their objective is not just. They are fighting for land

that is not theirs. This is the land of the people of Israel."

Mr. Shamir suggested Palestinians have no right to a homeland. "There are many Arab countries in the Middle East, there is enormous territory that every Arab can live in as his own," he said.

Mr. Shamir also claimed the methods of Lehi and Palestinian guerrilla groups were different.

"We never fought against unarmed civilians. We fought against oppressors, against occupiers, while the main targets of the Palestinian terror groups are civilians, old people, women, children," he said.

Israeli historian Benny Morris confirmed that Lehi mainly targeted British officials, but said not all of them were armed. He also said the group robbed banks and extorted money from Jewish business people to finance its activities.

PNC delayed again

TUNIS (Agencies) — A meeting of the Palestinian National Council (PNC) to decide whether to attend a Middle East peace conference has been postponed for a third time because of disputes among factions, a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) source said Wednesday.

The PNC meeting will adopt the Palestinian position on the conference proposed by Washington and Moscow for October.

The meeting of 450 leaders was originally planned in Algiers for mid-September and then for Sept. 20. The PLO source said it had now been put off to Sept. 23.

He said talks with groups based in Damascus and with the fundamental movement Hamas to try to persuade them to attend the PNC session had made no progress.

(Continued on page 5)

U.N.: Iraq needs \$2.4b in oil sales to buy food

UNITED NATIONS (R) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar is expected to suggest this week that Iraq be allowed to sell up to \$2.4 billion worth of oil in the next six months, sources at the U.N. said late Tuesday.

But his key report on oil sales is not expected to dispute openly the \$1.6 billion ceiling put on Iraqi petroleum exports by the Security Council in an Aug. 15 resolution.

Instead he will probably recommend that the council review Iraq's needs in the next few months, the sources said. Money from the oil sales will go to cover emergency humanitarian needs and other costs.

"We are pretty certain the final version will end up not directly challenging the ceiling but point to the latest, higher U.N. humanitarian estimates and refer to the review mechanisms," said one source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The report is expected to go to the Security Council on Thursday. No Iraqi oil can flow until the 15-member body approves the document, expected next week at the earliest.

An early draft of the report estimates that Iraq's food, health and sanitation needs in the next six months are \$1.73 billion, the sources said.

Iraq also has to pay 30 per cent of its oil revenues into a fund to compensate victims of the Gulf war as well as cover U.N. costs for scrapping its weapons of mass destruction.

Consequently, the draft report suggests Iraq be permitted to sell \$2.4 billion worth of oil to cover its own needs and pay into the compensation funds, the sources said.

The draft also recommends that Turkey should be granted its request of \$264 million to get the pipeline from Iraq in use again. It is expected Ankara will be paid in oil.

Iraq has rejected the resolution, which directs all proceeds from oil sales go into a U.N. escrow account.

The council last month voted to let Iraq sell oil to import food and humanitarian supplies, pay Gulf war reparations and meet other debts arising from its invasion of Kuwait last year.

The secretary-general's report was mandated by the council to ensure that food and medicine bought with Iraqi oil money reaches needy civilians and that none is siphoned off by the Baghdad government.

Kuwaiti cabinet okays pact with U.S.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — The Israeli defence ministry announced Wednesday that the Islamic University in the Occupied Gaza Strip will be allowed to reopen for the first time since the start of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories 44 months ago.

It was the fifth Palestinian university given permission to operate. Bir Zeit University in the occupied West Bank remains shut down.

Israel closed the six universities shortly after the start of the Palestinian Uprising against Israeli occupation in December 1987. The army contended they were centres of anti-Israel activities.

The United States and international human rights groups have repeatedly called for reopening the schools, saying that their closure constitutes collective punishment.

The Islamic University had an enrollment of 5,000 students when it was closed.

"The opening of the university is part of the defence policy to allow a gradual return to normal of the educational system in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip," a defence ministry statement said.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens met with directors of the university Wednesday to inform them of the decision, Palestinians said.

Sheikh Mohammad Awad, the chairman of the university's board of trustees, called Mr. Arens' decision "a goodwill gesture."

Lawyer Fayed Abu Rahme said the reopening of the university was "a fair and just procedure."

A Palestinian community leader was questioned by police Tuesday for alleged incitement against Israel.

Ghassan Khatib, who has spent seven months in prison for anti-Israeli activities during the uprising, was the third Palestinian leader to be questioned by police in the past eight days.

On Aug. 26, Israeli police questioned Faisal Hussein and Hanan Ashrawi on charges they had contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).



PARLIAMENT WINDS UP YEAR'S BUSINESS: Small groups of deputies hold consultations Wednesday in the chamber as the



Lower House of Parliament ended an extraordinary session (photos by Yousef Al 'Alas)

Parliament ends extraordinary session

By Tareq Al Momani
Special to the Jordan Times

House in the regular session.

In the extraordinary session the House discussed and approved 13 draft and temporary laws out of a total of 90 topics listed on its agenda for the session.

In its meeting on Wednesday the House approved temporary laws related to supplies.

The two laws define the role of the Ministry of Supply in implementing the Kingdom's supply policy and in securing its needs and reserves of basic food supplies.

The regular session of Parliament opens in October. In the interim, the focus of discussions among the various blocs and groupings in the Lower House is expected to be speakership of the

limits for net profits and prices for commodities wherever prices are not defined by the ministry.

The supply laws also state that the price and quality inspectors at the ministry should pay inspection visits to stores and shops to check the adherence of merchants to the laws.

They also state that factories should have prices clearly written on each item of their products on basic food supplies and other issues referred to it by the minister.

The laws also give the minister the right to ask factories to supply him with a list of their stores, their locations, contents and the

UNRWA confident problem of Gazans in Kuwait will be resolved

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

go...we are going to find a solution to this problem by Nov. 15."

AMMAN — A senior United Nations official expressed confidence Wednesday that a solution will be found by mid-November for the problem of the thousands of Gazans holding Egyptian documents facing expulsion from Kuwait. Although the official did not reveal any details, it was believed that he had secured an Egyptian promise that the Cairo government would exert its influence with the Kuwaiti government not to expel the Gazans, who are not accepted by any country, including Egypt, whose travel documents they carry.

The Pentagon announced last week that the U.S. administration was seeking such an agreement with Kuwait.

Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams said he expected that agreement to be completed soon and stressed that the United States did not intend to keep permanent bases in Kuwait.

The agency quoted the minister of state for cabinet affairs, Dhari Al Othman, as saying that the agreement would cover the use of Kuwaiti facilities.

Mr. Othman said the 10-year agreement aimed at "achieving close cooperation between the two countries to boost the military capabilities of the Kuwaiti armed forces through programs and training."

On the stranded Gazans, Mr. Othman said, "we know that they have nowhere to

A senior Jordanian official was quoted as saying Tuesday that the Egyptian government

was expected to press Kuwait to allow the estimated 23,000 Gazans to remain in the emirate.

It was not immediately known whether Cairo had initiated contacts with Kuwait, but the validity of the documents carried by the Gazans in Kuwait runs out on Nov. 15.

His Majesty King Hussein has expressed concern that Gazans expelled from Kuwait who lack the proper documents to enter the occupied Gaza-strip might have nowhere to go except Jordan. Other officials have said the Kingdom was willing to help the Gazans to enter the occupied territories through Jordan if a mechanism could be worked out, including Israeli consent to receive them across the River Jordan.

Mr. Turkmen, commission general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) also told a press conference that the Gazans, who are not accepted by any country, including Egypt, whose travel documents they carry.

Mr. Turkmen, who held talks with Egyptian officials before arriving here Monday, told the press conference that although "there was no specific conclusion ... the Egyptian government was very forthcoming."

(Continued on page 5)

Iraq marks war anniversary with call for better Iran ties

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq marked the anniversary of the start of its eight-year war with Iran Wednesday with newspaper editorials urging better relations between Baghdad and Tehran.

Up to a million people were killed in the war, including thousands of civilians who died when long-range missiles smashed into Tehran and Baghdad and other key cities.

Iraq dates the outbreak of the war, the Middle East's longest and bloodiest conflict in modern times, as September 4, 1980, when it said Iran attacked four eastern border towns.

Iraq's invasion of Iran along a 500-kilometre front on Sept. 22 is regarded by Iran as the beginning of the conflict, halted by a U.N.-brokered ceasefire in August 1988.

The Iraqi army newspaper Al Qudsiyah, which does not normally publish special editions, including the return of prisoners of war still held by both countries.

In a front-page editorial, it said the people of Iraq wanted "peace and security in order for the black cloud that is hanging over the countries of the region to be lifted."

This enabled Iraq to redeploy forces from front lines facing Iran to southern Iraq.

The English-language Baghdad Observer, calling for "normal, no tense" ties with Tehran, said Iraq's goodwill gestures "appear not to have a good echo with the Iranian side so far."

Celebrating the anniversary last month of Iran's acceptance of the ceasefire, Baghdad said Tehran was still trying to incite unrest among its people and export its Islamic revolution.

On Wednesday, the ruling Baath party newspaper Al Thawra said Iraq wanted normal relations with Iran, but repeated the accusations that Tehran incited March's short-lived Shi'ite rebellion in southern Iraq.

In late August, Iraq set a fence-mending team headed by a senior Foreign Ministry official to Tehran for talks with Iranian officials on deadlocked issues, including the return of prisoners of war still held by both countries.

Iraq and Iran agree to make formal peace soon after Iraq invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2 last year.

This enabled Iraq to redeploy forces from front lines facing Iran to southern Iraq.

Moroccan Foreign Minister

Turkish, Greek premiers to meet

ANKARA (R) — The Turkish and Greek prime ministers will meet in Paris this month to discuss issues including a possible solution to the Cyprus question, a foreign ministry spokesman said in Ankara Wednesday. "There will be a meeting between Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz and Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis in Paris when

Scientists say Gulf ecological damage more on global than on regional level

BAHRAIN (AP) — Gulf scientists Tuesday said that ecological damage from the Gulf war will cause less damage to the region than global warming and the so-called greenhouse gases.

Twelve experts from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, part of a task force set up by the U.N. environment programme and the Regional Organisation for Protection of Marine Environment, expressed concern over global warming's effect on Gulf waters.

Walter J. Vreeland, an adviser to the Bahrain-based Environmental Protection committee, said fires in Kuwaiti oil fields torched during the Gulf war are expected to do less damage to the global climate.

"We realise the oil fires are going to go away... the actual carbon monoxide generated by the oil fires is 2 per cent of the global carbon monoxide," he said. "It is not significant."

Kuwait has extinguished about half the number of the blazing oil wells and already the skies of Bahrain are slightly brighter than earlier in the year.

Al Sayed Mohammad, a Qatari scientist and coordinator of the team, said the world consumes, or burns, more than 30 million barrels of oil daily while fires in the Kuwaiti oil fields burn only three million barrels.

"The three million barrels is nothing compared to the 30 million barrels," Mr. Mohammad said.

He said carbon monoxide is expected to raise world temperature by one to four degrees Celsius by the year 2030. Carbon monoxide is an inevitable product of the burning of fossil fuels.

"As a result, Mr. Mohammad said, the sea level will increase by 30 centimetres to 70 centimetres by the end of next century.

Mr. Vreeland said: "This area will be affected, but how much is really open for discussion."

In the Gulf, global warming could mean water shortages and parching of the earth in a region that is mainly desert. The region is a major oil producing centre, alone sitting on two-thirds of the world's proven oil reserves.

Makram Gerges, senior programme officer with the U.N. Environmental Programme, said rapid development in the Gulf

Troubles of Sudanese rebel leader said far from over

By Hamza Hendawi
Reuter

NICOSIA — The failure of last week's mutiny against Sudanese rebel chief John Garang left the U.S.-educated Dinka tribesmen unscathed and firmly in control but, diplomats and Sudan experts said, his troubles are far from over.

They said his tolerance of alleged atrocities against civilians by the mostly Dinka men of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) was fomenting dissent against the ex-army colonel from non-Dinka commanders.

The complex tribal makeup of the 40,000-strong force, fighting government troops in south Sudan since 1983 and secessionist sentiments within the SPLA were other issues he must handle delicately to stay at the helm. "They enslave civilians,

they recruit children to fight, rape, torch villages and summarily execute captured soldiers," said one expert who closely watches human rights in Sudan.

Their actions are directed almost exclusively at non-Dinkas," he added. "The army's record is not any better."

Colonel Garang was the target of the mutiny by three top commanders — Riek Machar Teng-Dhangon, Lam Akol and Gordon Koang Chol — who sharply criticised his policies and leadership style.

The SPLA said Col. Garang was chairing a meeting of the SPLA leadership at the rebel-held southern town of Kapoeta when the mutiny happened. The town, according to diplomats, came under government aerial bombing following the SPLA statement.

Details of the mutiny have been scanty, but a statement attributed to its instigators

7 killed as Turkish troops search for kidnap victims

ANKARA (AP) — Clashes between Turkish troops and Kurdish rebels have killed at least seven people, as a wide-scale military operation continued in eastern Turkey to locate five — abducted Westerners, officials said late Tuesday.

Three Americans, a Briton and an Australian were abducted Friday night from their vehicles by Kurdish rebels in Bingol province. They were on an expedition seeking the site of Noah's Ark, which the Bible says landed on Mount Ararat in present-day eastern Turkey after the great flood.

A Turkish driver told police that the kidnappers identified themselves as guerrillas belonging to the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK).

Turkish officials have maintained a strict silence about the

search, which involves about 2,500 soldiers and police and covers several provinces.

But a senior government official in the provincial centre of Diyarbakir told the Associated Press that the security forces had so far not made any contact with the kidnappers.

He said no American or other Western troops or experts were assisting in the search.

About 2,500 Western troops are based at Silopi on the Iraqi border to protect Iraqi Kurds after their failed March rebellion. Last month, a PKK guerrilla commander expressed the group's displeasure with what he described a U.S. plot to stifle Kurdish independence.

The Turkish official in Diyarbakir, speaking on condition of anonymity, said he did not know why the PKK has not officially

claimed responsibility for the abduction. The PKK did so when it kidnapped 10 German tourists a month ago. The Germans were released unharmed eight days later.

The release of the Germans has kept hopes up for the eventual safe return of the five new hostages.

An Americans embassy official in Ankara said there had been no attempt by the PKK to contact U.S. officials regarding the missing Westerners.

Meanwhile, as the search continued, there was a reported incident in rebel ambushes.

On Monday night, two non-commissioned officers were killed in a guerrilla ambush, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported Tuesday.

Also Monday, in adjoining Mus province, the guerrillas de-

railed an express train and ambushed troops arriving on the scene, the news agency said.

A soldier, a policeman and two guerrillas were killed, it said. Four policemen and a mechanist were injured.

Turkish authorities in Diyarbakir announced Tuesday that another rebel had been killed in Suri province.

The missing Westerners have been identified as Americans Ronald Wyatt, Marvin Wilson and Richard M. Rives, Briton Gareth Thomas, and Australian Allen Roberts.

The PKK has been fighting since 1984 for an independent Marxist state in southeastern Turkey, home to about half of the country's 12-million-strong Kurdish minority. Over 3,000 rebels, soldiers and civilians have died in the fighting.

S. Arabia sends captured Iraqi tanks to Pakistan

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia sent four shipments of Iraqi tanks captured in the Gulf war to Pakistan but they are badly damaged and "heaps of junk," shipping sources said Wednesday.

The sources, who asked not to be named, said freighters began collecting mangled Soviet-made T-55 and T-62 tanks, all captured in Kuwait, in the Saudi port of Damman two months ago.

The fourth shipment arrived in Karachi on Aug. 27 and there was a possibility of more being delivered, they said.

But they said it was hard to imagine what Pakistan, which looks to Saudi Arabia as its main source of aid, would do with the mangled equipment.

"We understand there have been four shipments of mainly T-55 and T-62 tanks, but as far as we're concerned they are just a heap of junk — scrap metal," one source said.

"Some of them were without their guns, some had no turrets or tracks and none was mobile," he added. "But they (the Pakistanis) may be able to cannibalise some of them. It's our understanding they were all captured in Kuwait," he added.

A Pakistani Defence Ministry spokesman denied any tanks had arrived but dock workers in Karachi said they had seen them unloaded day and night behind tarpaulin screens. They were moved from the port area at night.

"Yes, we have seen big tanks with long barrels," one dock worker said.

In Rotterdam, shipping manager Koen Schijfvaart said the 7,168-tonne Dutch-registered freighter Fairfitt carried a cargo of tanks to Karachi a few days ago but would not say how many or what type.

A Kalm official said: "The only thing I can say is that it brought a number of tanks to Karachi from

Child murder case dovetails with spread of child abuse in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — The battered corpse of an 11-year-old boy found by a haystack is stirring a broad debate about how Israel, and its kibbutz collective farms in particular, deals with child abuse.

Children's rights advocates said Tuesday the case is alarming because it dovetails with increasing reports of child beatings, which they estimate at about 30,000 a year.

Hanita Zimrin, chairwoman of the Israeli Children's Defence League, said Zohar Paz's tragedy also pointed up a tendency by close-knit groups in Israel to cover up family violence.

At kibbutz Shoval in southern Israel, where Zohar Paz lived, officials insisted they concealed nothing from the authorities. They also denied allegations that the boy was known to be battered at home before the slaying.

Police said that Zohar, whose body was found Sunday morning with "signs of violence," was clearly beaten to death.

They have arrested the 53-year-old boyfriend of Zohar's kibbutz mother and his 17-year-old son, southern district spokesman Shalom Ben-Hemo said. The man and his son live in the nearby city of Beersheba.

Mr. Ben-Hemo said that Zohar, who suffered from epilepsy and impaired motor development, was found in a tub inside a shack about 11 hours after kibbutz officials reported him missing.

The boy apparently left his home sometime Saturday afternoon, Mr. Ben-Hemo said. A photograph of wide-eyed,

dark-haired Zohar stared out of every Israeli newspaper Tuesday and legislators and children's rights advocates questioned whether laws about child abuse were being enforced.

A far-reaching law requires Israelis to report any suspicion of child abuse. Offenders can be jailed for three months — six months in the case of social workers. Mrs. Zimrin said.

But she knew of no case where offenders were punished.

Legislators demanded a probe into why police never received complaints that Paz was being battered.

Kibbutz officials were defensive. The case, believed the first of its kind on a collective farm, defied the pristine image of the kibbutz as a sanctuary of communal ideal.

"This is a most unusual case. By our whole approach, child abuse just goes against the grain. But I guess exceptions can happen anywhere," said Shlomo Raver, a senior kibbutz movement official. About three per cent of Israel's 4.7 million people live on kibbutz.

Mr. Shoval's secretary, Gadi Romen, denied Paz was a battered child, saying he based this on the accounts of teachers and social workers who handled the boy.

Mr. Romen said the boy's mother underwent a strain after his father died in an auto accident seven years ago. He said social workers from outside the kibbutz were informed of the family's problems and were dealing with it.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

cont.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Joseph Ismail 770560
Dr. Khalid Muaddi 743500

Dr. Hisham Abu Argoub 893122

Dr. Yousif Al Housani 624578

Fires 661912

First Aid 63336

Al Aseer pharmacy 629375

Nairoukh pharmacy 629572

Al Salam pharmacy 636720

Yacoub pharmacy 646945

Stomachic pharmacy 627660

Min. Max. temp.:

Amman 18 / 33

Aqaba 24 / 36

Deserts 17 / 34

Jordan Valley 24 / 37

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31, Aqaba 35. Humidity: Amman 26 per cent, Aqaba 38 per cent.

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defense Department 661111

Civil Defense Immediate Response 630241

Civil Defense Emergency 199

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 891228

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 893690

Traffic Police 662362

Police Complaints 603000

Police Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage Complaints 897467

Amman Municipal Complaints 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone Repair 623101

Al-Babli Telephone Repairs 661101

Army, Marks 891611/15

Queen Alia Hospital 60224050

Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:

Dr. Khamis Al Jaaburi 774111

Radio Jordan 680100

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 06-53220

Queen Alia Int'l. Airport 06-53220

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amm 6442816

Ahli Maternity, J. Amm 642362

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Makassed, Amman 636140

Palestine, Amman 6641646

Shamsiyya Hospital 6447114

University Hospital 6447114

Al-Mansher Hospital 6572279

The Islamic, Amman 65512327

Al-Abi, Abdal 6641646

Italian, Al-Muhajress 7711013



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (centre) discusses role of preachers in a meeting at the King Abdullah Mosque. The Crown Prince urged that

seminars be held promoting solidarity among Jordanians. (Petra photo)

Crown Prince Hassan calls for objective sermons from preachers

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday called on mosque preachers and Muslim clerics to be objective in their preaching and to provide worshippers with constructive ideas and correct information.

"We live in a modern age in which we can easily obtain information which can be relayed to the public in facts and figures," said the Regent at a meeting held at the King Abdullah Mosque and attended by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Raef Jijem and other ministry officials. The Regent urged the audience to hold seminars that "can open the hearts and minds" and promote the concept of solidarity among members of the Jordanian community.

The Regent urged preachers and scholars to encourage constructive dialogue and said he was pained to hear preachers sometimes expressing ingratitude.

He said: "I did not come to address you on religion because it is not my field of specialisation. Mr. Jijem said that the Minis-

try of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs is currently paying for the education of 174 students in Jordanian universities because they come from needy families.

Mr. Jijem addressed the meeting outlining the various activities of his ministry with particular attention to plans to develop Islamic schools. The minister said that the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs had prepared a television programme about the Holy City of Jerusalem to be presented in October.

The 20-part television programme features the city's religious, architectural, legal and other aspects. It also highlights Israel's illegal practices.

The minister said that the ministry had funds that used to draw on contributions from the Gulf states, but that the process has now come to an end with the suspension of aid from the Gulf.

But, he added, the zakat (alms to the poor) fund continues to operate and offer help to the needy. Mr. Jijem said that the Minis-

Jordanian, Egyptian officials discuss trade ties

CAIRO (Petra) — Minister of Trade, Industry and Supply Ali Abul Ragheb Wednesday met with Egyptian Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Yousif Mustafa.

Mr. Abul Ragheb, who is representing Jordan at the meeting of the Arab Economic and Social Council held in Cairo, discussed with Dr. Mustafa ways of enhancing trade relations between Jordan and Egypt. The two agreed to hold a bilateral meeting to discuss ways of increasing trade exchanges between the two countries.

Mr. Abul Ragheb also met with Egyptian Minister of Foreign Cooperation Moris Makramah and reviewed with him issues related to the Jordanian-Egyptian Investment and Development Company.

Mr. Abul Ragheb and Dr. Makramah agreed to hold a meeting for the general council of the company Thursday.

The meetings of the Arab Economic and Social Council started in Cairo Wednesday with the participation of Arab ministers of finance and economy.

Secretary General of the Arab League Esmat Abdul Meguid delivered an opening address in which he called for efforts to bring the meetings to a successful end and to implement the resolutions that it will adopt. Dr. Meguid stressed the importance of Arab economic integration and called on participants in the meeting to discuss the issue of investment in the Arab World.

He said that one of the most important challenges facing the Arab Nation in the current decade is the problem of water shortages, which requires full coordination at the highest levels among Arab countries.

The Regent called for constructive and useful dialogue and urged the preachers to help enhance national unity and end differences in the religious concept and in behaviour.

The Regent also underlined the important role played by the Religious Department at the Armed Forces in fostering the sense of national belonging and in boosting morale.

Ministry to implement plan to boost tourism from European countries

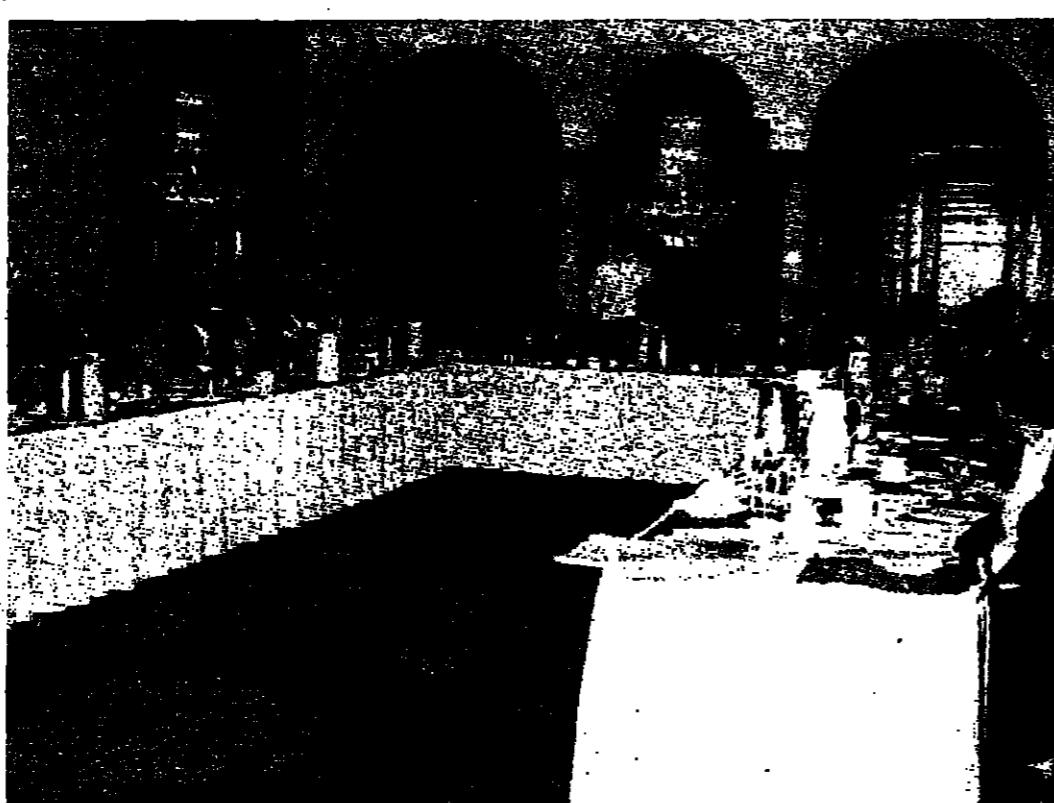
AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Tourism is launching a wide-scale campaign to promote Jordan and is enlisting the assistance of local and foreign tour operators to ensure its success.

Headlines of the campaign, seen as a major step on the part of the ministry to stimulate the tourism sector, were disclosed at a meeting held Wednesday under the chairmanship of Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kababiti and attended by representatives of the tour and travel offices, Royal Jordanian (RJ) and the Jordan Express Tourist and Transport Company (JETT), the main tourist bus company in the country.

The campaign will initially be carried out in Germany, Italy and Spain. The first efforts will be made in Italy to market Jordan's archaeological and tourist sites abroad, according to ministry Secretary General Nasi Atallah.

Mr. Atallah told the Jordan Times that the campaign in Germany and Spain was expected to begin in January or February. The aim of the campaign is to ensure that a greater number of tourist groups visit Jordan not only in the winter but the entire year.

The end of this month will witness the arrival in Amman of weekly plane-loads of Finnish tourists who will fly directly from Helsinki to the port city aboard RJ planes, Mr. Atallah said. He said that the weekly flights of 180 tourists could be increased to two depending on the volume of tourists in the coming winter season.



Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kababiti chairs a meeting Wednesday discussing ways of promoting tourism. Participants decided to im-

plement a plan highlighting the Kingdom's many historic sites

order to ensure the programme's success.

Last March, Mr. Atallah estimated Jordan's losses in tourism during the Gulf crisis, tourism in Amman was reduced to zero as tourist groups from Scandinavia and other European countries cancelled reservations.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

★ Art exhibition by Ibrahim Abul Rabb at the Royal Cultural Centre.
★ Exhibition of ceramics by Iraqi artist Salam Jamil Al Nefti at Alia Art Gallery.
★ An exhibition of native painting, from Germany at Abdul Haqq Sharabi Foundation Gallery.

CONCERT

★ Concert by Al Jedd Al Jadid folk troupe at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:30 p.m.

Symposium to deal with ways of increasing food production

AMMAN (Petra) — The faculty of agriculture at the University of Jordan and Baghdad University have prepared for a five day symposium on the utilisation of modern technology to increase the production of lean meat and participants from Arab and foreign countries are expected to take part in the discussions.

A statement from the University of Jordan Wednesday said that the symposium, which will be held at the University of Jordan beginning Saturday, is expected to review working papers and witness discussions on the subject of modern technology in the service of food production.

A spokesman for the preparatory committee said that the participants from Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Yemen, Sudan,

Libya, Tunisia and Ireland will submit working papers and discuss the subject of ensuring food for the Arab World in view of the growing demand the shortages now occurring in most of Arab countries.

The participants will be oriented on modern technology used in the production of food in general and lean meat in particular and research plans in the Arab World in this field will be examined, according to the spokesman.

He said that 13 working papers will be reviewed and several lectures will be delivered, all dealing with the subject of food production and means of increasing food supplies, particularly meat which is in high demand in the Arab World.

Returnees add 200,000 people to list of unemployed, minister says

AMMAN (Petra) — The latest wave of immigration into Jordan represented by the return of Jordanian and Palestinian expatriates from Kuwait will further swell the Kingdom's already burgeoning unemployment ranks, according to Minister of Labour Abdul Karim Al Dughami.

The return of the expatriates has severely exacerbated the unemployment problem, which is the main concern of the government, the minister said in an address at a graduation ceremony of a new batch of 700 trainees from Vocational Training Centres.

Mr. Dughami, who deputised for Prime Minister Taher Masri at the graduation ceremony, said that as of the coming week the government will study a working paper submitted by the Labour Ministry on means of handling the unemployment problem through a national project that entails providing training at vocational centres and through granting loans to heads of families seeking jobs.

The working paper deals primarily with the unemployed graduates of universities and community colleges, 5200 of whom are now seeking jobs, the minister said. He said the other job seekers, those with less education, can easily be absorbed by the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC), which now has 20,000 available jobs.

Training is given by the VTC centres for all returnees and local residents to make them eligible for jobs now taken by non-Jordanian workers, the labour minister said. Mr. Dughami thanked



Minister of Labour Abdul Karim Al Dughami (left) congratulates a Vocational Training Centre graduate. (Petra photo)

various private organisations and industries for their cooperation with the VTC in providing training to the young men and women.

Unemployment, the minister said, is a very serious problem that calls for close cooperation between the private and public sectors for solutions. For its part, the government has established the Employment and Development Fund (EDF), to offer loans to heads of families starting a small business and income-generating projects.

The government has been trying to find jobs for the job seekers in other Arab countries. The minister added that the Civil Service Commission (CSC) now has 52,000 applications, mostly from university graduates who are not qualified to enter the labour market but can get qualification through the training programmes.

VTC Director General Ahmad

Atwan called on university and community college graduates to join the training course to ensure employment for themselves. The government is determined to eliminate poverty by providing training to youth who could start a business or do skilled work in the various trades, Dr. Atwan said.

Referring to the VTC achievements, Dr. Atwan said that by the end of 1990 the VTC centres had trained nearly 53,000 citizens. He added that plans are under way to expand the present centres at Yajouz, Qweisneh, Ein Al Basheh and Al Manara. Dr. Atwan said that new centres will be set up in Marka, Aqaba, Irbid, Tafith and Zarqa.

He said that VTC programmes undergo continual change depending on the economic and social developments and the needs of the labour markets. In another development,

Minister Dughami announced that he has ordered the immediate departure of non-Jordanians working for community colleges, particularly those colleges which have failed to cooperate with the Ministry of Labour in organising the employment of non-Jordanians.

The minister made the announcement at a meeting with representatives of community colleges to whom he said that the government was determined to reorganise the Jordanian labour market and end the unemployment problem. As part of that effort, the minister said community colleges should employ Jordanians only.

The minister said he has instructed inspection teams from his ministry to intensify campaigns to various areas, including community colleges, to ensure that they abide by government regulations.

Petra Bank 'totally disregarded' regulations, witness testifies

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Intriguing details of the personal banking of former Petra Bank Chairman and General Manager Ahmad Chalabi and some of his family members and the speculation in foreign markets through Petra Bank were some of the highlights of testimony given in court by a banking expert on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Maher Waked, winding up a presentation of his investigation into Petra Bank affairs, told the court how he had come across "baffling" banking operations which incurred losses for Petra Bank as an institution but benefited Dr. Chalabi and some of his family members who maintained bank accounts outside Jordan.

Dr. Waked, executive director of the Bank of Jordan, who specifically referred to 28 cases involving what he described as "total disregard for Jordanian banking regulations and practices," also presented examples of "window-dressing" in the balance sheets of Petra Bank to satisfy local authorities.

The witness, the third to appear in the Military Court trying the Petra Bank cases, testified that the Chalabi management of Petra Bank used a London-based firm calling itself SCF Corporation for most of its speculation in precious metals and commodities.

The Chalabi management "actively encouraged Jordanians to speculate in the foreign markets and channelled such activities through Petra Bank Amman; Petra Banking Corporation Washington, D.C.; and SCF Corporation," Dr. Waked said.

However, some of the junior

Jordanian regulations prohibit Jordanians and Jordanian institutions from engaging in such speculation.

Officials have said that one entire floor at the main office of Petra Bank in Amman was devoted exclusively to cater to speculation, which also extended to cover the Jordanian dinar.

Dr. Waked estimated that a minimum of \$136 million of Petra Bank "losses" were the result of "gross mismanagement specifically aimed at personal benefits for Dr. Chalabi and members of the Chalabi family and violations of Jordanian regulations."

"The actual amount of losses could be somewhere between \$150 million and \$160 million," he said. Dr. Waked named Dr. Chalabi, Hazem Chalabi, Talal Chalabi, Mohammad Chalabi, Dr. Chalabi's nephew Jaafar Agha and former Petra Bank chief dealer Ali Sarraf as the main persons responsible.

In addition, he said, several former senior officials of Petra Bank, including assistant general managers were involved in such activities. Dr. Waked concluded his testimony in court Wednesday. He faces cross examination by at least 10 lawyers representing some of the defendants when the court resumes its sessions Saturday.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Senate approves laws

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament approved Wednesday the amended law of the state security court and the fiscal budget appendix draft law as they were referred to it by the Lower House. The House, which met under the chairmanship of its Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, in the presence of Prime Minister Taher Masri, recommended that subsidised fuel and food prices benefit citizens with limited income and called for activating the role of the Development and Employment Fund and for exerting more efforts in fighting unemployment. The House later held a closed session with Mr. Masri in which the House members were briefed on the latest developments in the local, Arab and international arenas.

Minister inspects Mafraq schools

MAFRAQ (Petra) — Education Minister Eid Dahiyat Tuesday made an inspection tour of Mafraq Governorate schools and opened a new secondary school in Balama. The school, which includes 22 classrooms, laboratories, and a sewing centre, cost JD 247,000. The minister met with educational leaders in the governorate and had a discussion on the best means to improve the educational situation in the governorate.

Dutch envoy ends tour of duty

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Abdallah Ensour Wednesday received the ambassador of the Netherlands to Jordan to bid him farewell on the occasion of the end of his tour of duty. Dr. Ensour lauded the ambassador's services in enhancing relations between Jordan and the Netherlands while serving as his country's non-resident ambassador and presented him with a token gift.

Hospital to be built in Deir Abi Saeed

DEIR ABI SAED (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture approved leasing 25 dunums of forest lands in Deir Abi Saeed area to Deir Abi Saeed Hospital which will be built in the town by the end of this year. Director of the Health Department in Al Koura district Jamal Al Sharman said the Ministry of Public Works and Housing is now in charge of the hospital project after reaching an agreement with the Ministry of Health. The Ministry of Public Works is expected to conduct needed studies to invite tenders for constructing the hospital which will accommodate 50 beds. The Ministry of Health has previously allocated JD 1,700,000 for constructing the hospital.

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Freedom with harmony

THE DRAFT LAW on press and publication is reaching its final stage in preparation for its final adoption. The Lower House of Parliament has just referred the new law to its Legal Committee to scrutinise its legal formulation. This is the time therefore for the public to express its opinions on it before it is too late.

At the outset, the new body of legislation is a major departure from the 1973 law and is articulated with the new spirit of democracy and parliamentary political life very much in mind. Article 3 incorporates this new sense of freedom and democracy when it stipulates in no uncertain terms that journalism and publication shall be free and freedom of expression shall be guaranteed. This article therefore constitutes the springboard from which all the subsequent provisions of the new legislation have been formulated.

Yet not everything in the new law is clear enough or in conformity with the cardinal principle about freedom of thought and expression. In fact, in some areas in the law there are contradictions. Take for example Article 6 which bestows on journalism the responsibility to enlighten the public on facts, orientations, thoughts and informations on the local, Arab and international levels. Article 9, however, appears to restrict such a broad mission by proscribing the publication of any material that is in conflict with the principles of freedom or national responsibility or human rights, or the respect for truth and the principles and ideals of the Arab and Islamic nations without indicating who will be the judge of these criteria.

One can easily visualise a conflict between these two formulations since new thoughts and perspectives, whether local or regional or international, may not always be in harmony with the sweeping restrictions as outlined in Article 9. From the international perspective as mentioned for example in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) which Jordan had signed and ratified, there can be no distinction made between the three monotheistic religions, especially when there is a provision for the protection of religious values. Article 42 purports to remedy this omission when it stipulates that defaming or libelling any religion or sect protected by the Constitution is prohibited. There is obviously a need to harmonise Article 9 with Article 42 on the one hand and the two articles with the provisions of the ICCPR, namely Articles 2, 18, 19, 20, 26, and 27. As much as the U.N. Human Rights Committee keeps on reminding us about Jordan's treaty obligations under that covenant, there is still little or no awareness of these obligations by Jordanian lawmakers.

Another major problem with the new law is the lack of sufficient coherence in its various provisions. Such vagueness in the law's legal formulations plays into the hands of the public prosecutor who has been accorded the responsibility of criminally prosecuting any violation of the law. As is, the guidelines of the new legislation will continue to be subject to many interpretations. Unless and until there is sufficient case law on the new legislation, journalism and publication would continue to be under the mercy of the government.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I daily Wednesday expressed serious doubts about the prospects of a speedy solution to the Middle East question and said that the United States has other priorities at hand. Washington's involvement in stirring trouble for the Europeans in Yugoslavia and its conspiracies, together with the Western Europeans, against the Soviet Union following the earlier conspiracies on Iraq are keeping the U.S. administration away from the Middle East, the paper noted. It said that the projected visit to the region by the U.S. Secretary of State James Baker might not achieve anything in view of the events in other areas of the globe. In view of the situation, the United States and Israel might choose to keep the state of affairs in the Middle East and continue their joint efforts to weaken the Arab World, the paper said. Indeed, the U.S. is busy with plots and plans to dismember the Soviet Union and prevent the 1992 European unity so that it would maintain its hegemony over the world, the paper continued. At the same time, it said, the U.S. maintaining its embargo on Iraq depriving the innocent civilians of their basic food and medicine and the means to exist with the help of a number of Arab regimes in the pay of the Washington master. The paper expressed belief that such a state of affairs can by no means continue for ever, and the time would come when the Arab masses would embark on the process of liberating themselves from their treacherous regimes and from the U.S. — Western hegemony for ever.

A columnist in Al Dostour demanded that the Arab masses in countries that are being visited by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker be informed of the outcome of his talks with the government officials so that a solid stand at the national level be taken. Mazen Al Seiket said that each time Mr. Baker visits the Arab countries no details about his talks with officials are offered to the public except vague promises that Washington would commit itself to the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions. The writer said that Parliament members, all government ministers and the members of the public have the right to know the facts and what is being agreed on with regard to the coming peace conference. While Washington claims that it is keen on implementing Security Council resolutions, it continues to supply Israel with weapons and economic aid in addition to millions of dollars to settle the Soviet Jewish immigrants in the occupied Arab lands, the writer noted. He said that Washington could only act from its stand in the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliances while dealing with the Middle East question and therefore there is no question about the fact that the U.S. administration is taking Israel's side in the ongoing mediation efforts to reach a compromise and start the peace conference. Therefore, he said, one can only wonder about the nature of the coming peace conference between the Arabs and Israel and can only feel apprehensive about the outcome of such a parley.

WHEN the people first elected their representatives to Parliament in November 1989, they naturally assumed they were picking new leaders who would tackle and overcome the difficult problems of our time. After all, the electorate had taken special care to heap their votes on candidates who stood for change and promised to make a difference and turned away from candidates who possessed little more than an oversized ego and a talent for mingling well. As things turned out, however, it has been a lot easier to bring the horse to water than to make it drink.

The mettle of the new legislature was tested early. Only weeks after the people roundly rejected the traditional political elite, voting into Parliament scores of hitherto obscure politicians, a highly traditional Cabinet presented itself to the legislative assembly for a vote of confidence. Three long days of political posturing, verbal abuse, and petty squawking passed before the assembly finally, and meekly, handed the government a landslide victory. Yet the same Parliament almost brought down the modern looking and youthful Cabinet of Taher Masri, himself a member of Parliament, without so much as bothering to sound convincing.

What could have possibly induced the Parliament to shower support upon a group of discredited veteran politicians shortly

after virulently castigating them on past performance? Even less credible is the Parliament's vehemence and inexplicable opposition to a Cabinet composed mainly of high-minded men who were hoisted to public life by voting constituencies; a Cabinet chosen from Parliament's own ranks. One possible explanation is that Parliament suffers from a self-deprecating and low opinion of itself: a syndrome captured most aptly by Groucho Marx's famous assertion that he would not join any club that found it fit to admit him.

Self-confidence is not the only quality of leadership that has gone missing. Others include self-denial, vision, courage, and perseverance.

Since the last election, scores of congressmen were haphazardly rotated in and out of Cabinet posts in an obvious attempt to appear as many parliamentarians as possible. The sense of legislators lining up eagerly to be ushered into the next Cabinet reshuffle like children outside a playground has deeply disturbed the people as they realised that their elected representatives were more interested in the trappings of power than in the integrity of the process.

Clearly, the lack of government policies has made it possible for a prime minister to invite legislators of all political persuasions to join the Cabinet and coexist inharmoniously on an aimless

journey. When the cook has no recipe, he tends to get sloppy with the ingredients.

So much for self-delusion. As for vision and courage, they were most noticeably absent during the Gulf crisis. Instead of holding a lit candle for the people as they struggled with currents of conflicting emotions and groped for a clear comprehension of cause and consequence, the Parliament merely chose to reflect the lowest impulse of the street: demagogery.

Finally, one has only to note the meagre output of the Parliament in terms of legislations actually deliberated and promulgated into laws or the shabby attendance habits of many legislators as indicative of a generally slothful attitude.

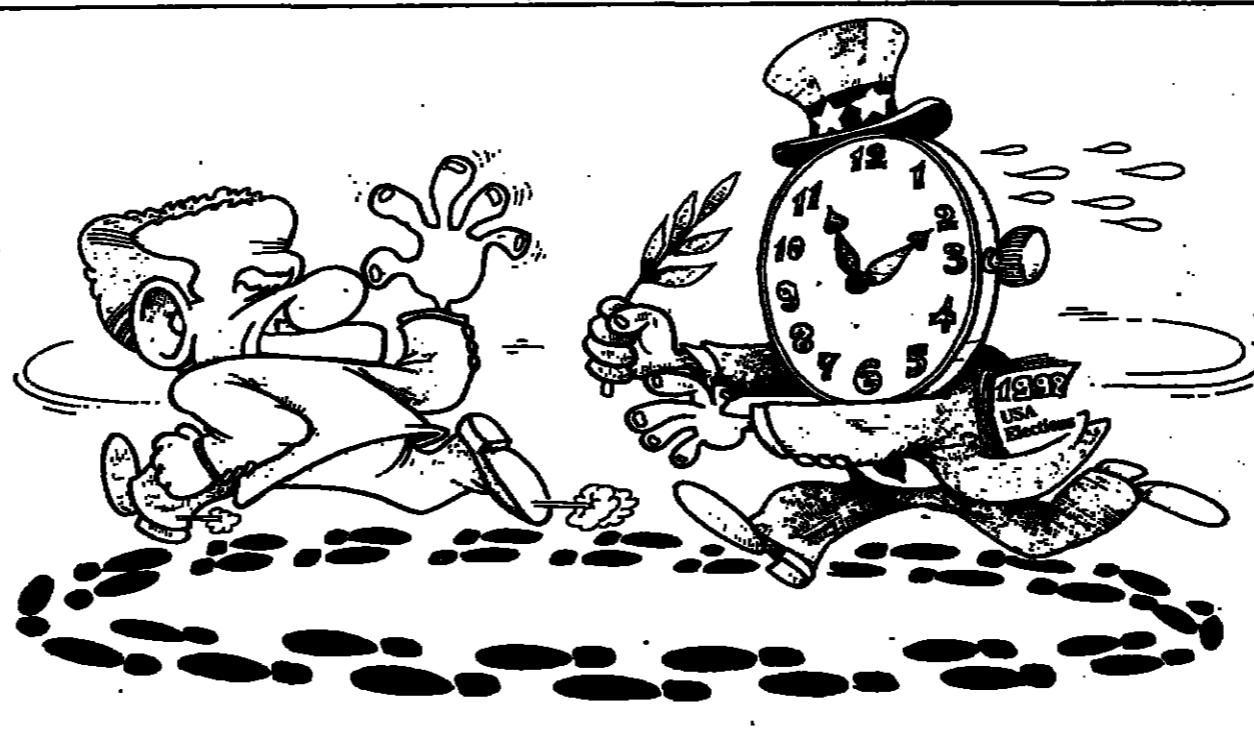
But the real potential danger of the Parliament's inadequacies lies in the possibility that the constant posturing, insufferable pretensions, and sheer noise distortions of the Parliament might obstruct or otherwise hamper the true leadership of Jordan, the Hashemite monarchy in fulfilling its own special role.

A true leader will never shirk his responsibilities. But in deference to democracy and the presumed will of the people, these responsibilities have always been shared. It is a shame, however, if the responsibility for the nation's welfare is to be shared with leaders who refuse to lead. To them, it must be said: Lead, follow, or get out of the way.

When leaders refuse to lead

By Safwan Battaini

What could have possibly induced the Parliament to shower support upon a group of discredited veteran politicians shortly



M. KAHIL

N. Korea to survive Soviet shocks with tight controls at home

By Seigo Sakamoto
Reuter

TOKYO — Stalinist North Korea, reeling from the sudden collapse of Soviet communist power, will tighten strict ideological control at home while seeking ways to ease its growing diplomatic isolation, analysts predict.

Pongyang-watchers in Tokyo and Seoul said they foresaw a massive domestic propaganda effort to counter the effects of the rapid changes in the birthplace of world communism.

On the international stage, North Korea — after a period of taking stock — could be expected to redouble its efforts to forge new friendships, with Japan first of all, and with other non-communist Asian nations, Japanese analysts said.

Its priorities would be withdrawal of U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea so as to focus, with international help, on rebuilding its crippled economy, said Teruo Komaki of Tokyo's Institute of Developing Economies.

What seemed certain in the chaotic aftermath of last week's abortive hardline coup that weakened president Mikhail Gorbachev, was that the Moscow-Pongyang alliance would never be the same — whoever holds real power in the Soviet capital.

Mali, Congo, Liberia and Sao Tome have started a trend which diplomats predict will catch on as more veteran presidents are forced from office.

"There could be an avalanche effect as former opponents take power and see the state of public finances they have inherited," a European diplomat who follows several West African countries commented.

The relationship has been sliding since the late 1980s when Mr. Gorbachev policies brought glasnost, or openness, to Soviet life, and freedom to East Europe's subject peoples.

It was Moscow's contacts with South Korea that really had North Korean "great leader" Kim Il-Sung.

The Koreans have been arch-enemies since the peninsula's division at the end of World War II. In the 1950-53 Korean War, Moscow sent the north massive aid, which has continued.

Mr. Gorbachev, after years of growing trade links, opened diplomatic ties with Seoul in September, 1990.

Nevertheless, he kept up economic aid all-important military assistance to isolated hardline Pyongyang.

Pongyang-watchers said ties could deteriorate radically if Russian reformist leader Boris Yeltsin or his allies took overall control of Soviet policy.

Such a development would face Pyongyang with three major concerns, assistant Professor Hajime Izumi of Shizuoka Prefectural University said.

"One concern is that Moscow's reformist leadership might slash its vital economic and military assistance.

"The second is that new Soviet leaders might bring greater, more overt pressure upon North Korea

than did Mr. Gorbachev to become more democratic," Mr. Izumi said.

A third was, in response to tumultuous Soviet moves toward democracy, dissidents might surface in North Korea to shake the foundations of its tightly controlled society.

Mr. Izumi said he did not believe North Korea was already troubled with dissidents despite a Radio Pyongyang broadcast this week calling on people to defend the country from what it called manoeuvres by enemies at home and abroad.

Rather, this indicated the leadership intended to prevent dissenters from emerging, he said.

Pongyang's official media have in recent years been at pains to describe its socialism as Korean-style to distinguish it from the Soviet communist model, analysts said.

"North Korea is stepping up its ideological education to rearm its people with orthodox socialism," Kim Chang-Soo, head of the Institute of North Korean Studies in Seoul, said.

"The northern rulers might try to reorganise their party by purging anti-party elements and reformers. They will desperately try to top the winds of freedom blowing."

Already, since the wave of democratisation swept Eastern Europe in 1989, North Korea has

tightened ideological control. "The North Koreans must be watching Soviet developments now with great wariness and anxiety," Mr. Izumi said.

"I don't think North Korea is in such a difficult situation that it has to make hasty changes," he said.

No sudden change to international policy was likely.

"Ties between Pyongyang and Moscow from now on will become more pragmatic," said Masao Okonogi of Keio University.

"If the Russian Federation gains power ... the alliance will become one in name only, no longer a reality."

"North Korea will have to increase dependence on China, a major socialist ally ... (but) relations with Japan are the most important," Mr. Okonogi said.

To achieve this the north would eventually have to agree to outside inspection of its secret nuclear plants and to engage in serious dialogue with the south, he said.

However, "as long as Kim Il-Sung is in good health, North Korea as a socialist nation can survive the fall of other communist governments," he said.

"The events in Eastern Europe could not easily occur in Asia ... the cultural traditions here are rather convenient for totalitarian rule."

Western companies who pay off bribes are just as guilty," said a economist with the African Development Bank.

He feared that even if non-African leaders want to unearthen the truth they will face resistance from all sides. Foreign governments who looked the other way when their companies paid bribes to obtain huge contracts are unlikely to lead the clean-up, he said.

Two former dignitaries, including a brother of figure-head President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, are in custody over corruption allegations. Justice Minister Martin Bemba went to France in August to start the process of repatriating assets abroad," a spokesman said.

But as old-style African presidents have often replied when challenged about the alleged venality of their regimes: "It takes two to tango."

The presidents have to be incriminated, of course. But the

Bush faces full agenda as he girds for 1992 election

By Gene Gibbons
Reuter

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine — After a 28-day summer holiday that involved as much work as play, President George Bush went back to Washington on Tuesday to tackle an array of domestic problems and redesign his foreign policy to reflect the break-up of the Soviet empire.

"What is it about August?" Mr. Bush grumbled after a bumbling power grab by Kremlin hardliners triggered an anti-communist revolution in the Soviet Union two weeks ago, ruining a month's fishing, boating and playing golf.

It was the second straight year that the president was forced to devote part of his holiday to crisis management. His deft response to the Soviet turmoil, coming atop his successful leadership in the Gulf war, strengthened his image as an international statesman and left him in a commanding position going into the 1992

national legislature — will take on greater and greater political colouring as the tempo of the 1992 campaign picks up.

At the same time, the Republican president will be scrambling to adjust U.S. foreign policy in light of the radically changing Soviet political landscape.

Many issues lie just ahead, including one with personal ramifications for Mr. Bush, who admires and respects Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev — how to tack between Mr. Gorbachev and Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Administration policymakers make no secret of the fact that they would prefer to deal with Mr. Gorbachev, but they recognise that they would prefer to deal with Mr. Yeltsin, a charismatic, popular, elected leader who mobilised resistance to the right-wing power grab, the real power in Moscow.

Mr. Gorbachev "has lost a lot of his power base and a lot of his power has shifted to President Yeltsin," national security adviser Brent Scowcroft said in television interview on Saturday.

Mr. Scowcroft said the Soviet leader's long-term ability to survive politically "still has to be demonstrated."

As he juggles domestic and foreign policy issues, Mr. Bush will frequently be on the move. Much of his travel, he appears to be looking ahead to November 1992 and moving to strengthen his political flank.

At this stage of the 1992 election campaign, the Democrats have only one announced candidate for their party's presidential nomination: Paul Tsongas, a little-known former Massachusetts senator.

Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton and Iowa Senator Tom Harkin are waiting in the wings, but some more prominent Democrats are declining to run.

A big labour rally in Washington on Saturday and a protest here on Sunday by militant AIDS activists were reminders, however, that there is dissatisfaction with Mr. Bush's leadership, particularly on domestic issues.

Battles loom between the White House and Congress over civil rights, health care, education and protection for workers who go on strike.

Mr. Bush's words and actions — and those of his Democratic opponents who control the Senate — will be hotbeds of environmental activism.

Mr. Bush is likely to offer his first comprehensive statement on the policy implications of the Soviet turmoil in a speech to the United Nations. He will deliver that speech during a Sept. 23-24 visit to New York.

Later this autumn, Mr. Bush will attend a NATO summit in Rome, where events in the Soviet Union are again certain to dominate discussion.

After Thanksgiving, which falls on Nov. 28, the U.S. leader plans a major Pacific trip that will take him to Japan, Korea, Australia, Indonesia and Singapore.

Africa's new leaders hunt for embezzled funds abroad

By Nicholas Kotch
Reuter

ABIDJAN — If Africa's new-breed politicians are to be believed, the hunt is on for billions of embezzled dollars salted away in foreign bank accounts.

In August alone, four governments announced legal moves to recover assets they say were stolen under previous one-party regimes whose forte was certainly not book-keeping.

Mali, Congo, Liberia and Sao Tome have started a trend which diplomats predict will catch on as more veteran presidents are forced from office.

"There could be an avalanche effect as former opponents take power and see the state of

Business booming for taxis but passengers getting frustrated

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Business is booming for the taxi industry in Amman, with drivers reporting a two-fold increase of take-home earnings in six months. Good news indeed for thousands of families, but the rising transportation needs of Amman's population leaves many potential passengers waiting endlessly in many areas of the capital peering the horizon for the yellow vehicles.

The question that is raised by many is whether Amman, already facing unprecedented traffic jams and bottlenecks, will be wise to license more taxis to cope with the situation, which, many experts argue, could be only temporary.

Seasonal or not, almost everyone who uses a taxi at least once a day agrees that there is a dearth of cabs whenever there is a need. Taxi drivers agree and say that they hardly move 50 metres without a paying passenger aboard these days while they used to face hours of fruitless cruising in search of a fare only six months back.

There are about 5,000 private taxis operated by 200

offices to cater to the needs of the population of Amman. By all standards, the number is sufficient, and, in practical terms, it should not take more than a few minutes for anyone to get a taxi, experts say.

But the reality today is something else and it has a lot to do with the Gulf crisis, which led to a dramatic increase in Amman's population in the form of expatriates who were forced to leave Kuwait and other Gulf states.

Iraqi visitors, vacationing expatriates and tourists in town, and this has created the high demand," he said.

"The demand will decline and stabilise soon, when the tourist season ebb and vacationing expatriates return to their countries of work," he argued.

"In the meantime, we can do without more vehicles on the roads, which are already clogged on an unprecedented level," he said.

Officials noted that higher number of traffic policemen were assigned to Amman streets these days in a bid to ease the traffic congestion, mostly attributed to the dramatic rise in the number of vehicles brought in by returning expatriates as well as Iraqis visiting Jordan.

They also pointed out that

there were assigned stations

for taxis in various areas of Amman and that sharing taxis were permitted from these points. But, many users say, they cannot find taxis at such points when they need them and sometimes they are left to the mercy of drivers who might demand higher fares.

Mohammad Hamlan of Amman Taxi — which maintains four offices with a total of 100 cars in and around the capital — said most of his vehicles were engaged on a daily basis to trips to the Dead Sea, Madaba, Jerash and other tourist attractions.

"This is the case with many other taxi offices in Amman," Mr. Hamlan said, "and that is why there is a marked decrease in the number of taxis plying Amman streets."

According to Mr. Hamlan, one way to ease the situation is to allow an increased number of temporarily licensed mini-buses to add to the number of service taxis on fixed routes.

"This should take care of the seasonal demand without having to register new taxis," he said.

Registering new taxis, said another taxi operator, would have an adverse effect in that there will be additional takers to the available business during winter. "Earnings go down during winter and any addition to the number of taxis will further cut down on the net take-home earnings of the day," he added, preferring anonymity, saying that he did not want to be seen as "denying anyone to the means to make a livelihood."

The average daily earning of a driver who does not own

the vehicle he drives is between JD 10 and JD 12 these days, compared with JD 7 and JD 9 in January this year, according to assessments made by several taxi offices.

The owner makes between JD 8 and JD 12 depending upon the type of vehicle (larger cars with higher fuel consumption fetch less). An owner-cum-driver is obviously better off despite the relatively high investment.

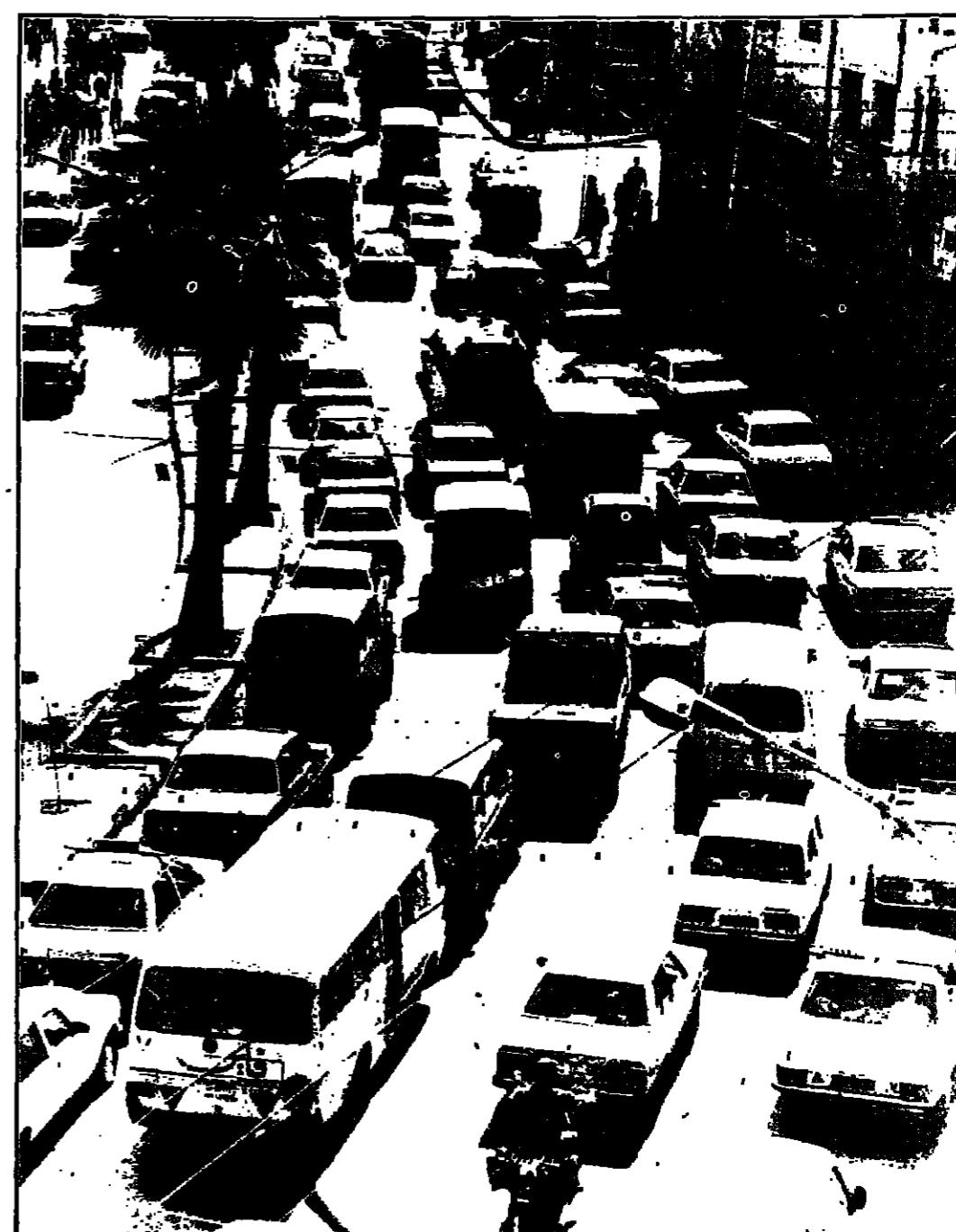
The authorities are not issuing any new licences for taxi offices but transfer the commercial licence of one vehicle to another.

"Our present assessment does not indicate that there is any need for new licences," said a senior official. "If we find the need, then perhaps there could be a change in the policy of not issuing new licences, but it will be on a case-by-case basis," he said.

No licensing of new taxi offices means no licensing for new taxis since every taxi has to be registered with one of the taxi offices, which in turn cannot have more than 25 taxis attached to a single office. Every office has to have at least 10 taxis which it owns while the rest could be owned by others who pay JD 15 every month for using the name of the office.

Every taxi should physically report at the office every three hours and carry a signed slip from the office indicating the last time of reporting. Violators of this rule are fined JD 5.

Awani Midiq, 55, who has been driving in Amman's streets for the past 35 years, estimates the minimum investment in a taxi office these days at JD 100,000. "That is based on an average price of JD 9,500 per car," he said.



Amman is facing unprecedented traffic jams and bottlenecks these days due to a dramatic increase in the capital's population in the

form of expatriates who were forced to leave Kuwait and other Gulf states.

Taxis are rarely seen parked in front of their offices as seen in the photo above since business has seen as unusual boom these days.

The challenges and prospects of Paris fashion

By Claire Thierry

PARIS — "Haute couture is condemned." The verdict fell like a guillotine blade in January 1991, just before the sumptuous ritual of fashion collections. The person who spoke these words should know what he is talking about. It was Pierre Bergé, for nearly thirty years the chairman and managing director of the prestigious Saint-Laurent house of fashion. As if to prove him right, Alain Chevallier, in charge of Balmain, announced that he was giving up couture "in its traditional form," an area which, in his firm, barely clad twenty customers.

The funeral speech started a war in luxury fashion circles. Were they in favour of or against a predicted death? According to pessimists, this activity is so expensive that it no longer has any interest even for its value as publicity to promote the other products of the firm, such as ready-to-wear clothes, accessories and, above all, perfumes.

It is true that the conditions for admission to the highly exclusive and very corporatist Paris Couture Syndical Chamber (with its 22 members and only two new ones among them in the last twenty years) has not changed since before the war: Having to employ 20 people in a company's workshop and, twice a year, to present a collection of at least 75 models, only a third of which would be bought.

At the same time, production costs have exploded, while there is no room for a gain in productivity in this luxury craftsmanship in which much of the work is done by hand. It still takes 150 hours to make the least little dress, an exclusive

woollen fabric costs 2,000 francs a metre and an embroidered silk about 7,000 francs. Presenting a couture collection comes to between 5 and 20 million francs, or even 30 million for Saint-Laurent. Moreover, the latter indicates that he loses an average of 70 million francs on the two yearly collections.

The result is that the prices are sky-high and the drastically falling number of customers is today estimated as being around 3,000. Only a few American, Saudi and, increasingly, Japanese millionaires can afford several of these made-to-measure "very simple, but very couture" suits costing 100,000 francs each or a sumptuous evening dress for 500,000 francs. Many models of evening dress are, moreover, lent, for promotion, to princesses in the jet set, or to cinema or television stars for a gala in Paris or in Monte Carlo.

Times are changing too. Even every wealthy woman prefers to dress in haute couture ready-to-wear clothes today and to shun luxury which appears ostentatious. Another negative point is that the prestigious designers and founders of the big Paris fashion houses have died, such as Mademoiselle Chanel, or are growing old: Cardin and Feraud are over sixty, Ungaro and Saint-Laurent will soon reach that age. They have no successors to take over and does their virtuoso talent not make them irreplaceable, just like any artist? "If Yves Saint-Laurent passes away, I will close down the couture department," Pierre Bergé coldly asserts. "I am not going to go hunting for fashion designers." In his opinion, the future for grands couturiers lies solely in top of the range ready-to-wear clothes.

Some people add that haute couture is a vital necessity for the ready-to-wear fashions. As a permanent laboratory for experimenting, it continuously innovates in cuts, invents textures and launches styles. It is, in fact, the "fundamental research" department without which the clothing industry would not be able to renew itself. It is also a conservancy of such unique know-how that it borders on art by its perfection. It is hardly surprising that Paris honours fashion with two museums, and that a few professionals are thinking of creating a patronage foundation with the aim of supporting the activity of fashion decorators ("parazzi"), who supply the couturiers. The delicate problem of who is to take



Presentation of Yves Saint Laurent's 1991 spring-summer collection

over from the old designers, remains, but some fashion houses have solved this by recruiting the best designers from ready-to-wear. Karl Lagerfeld took over from Coco Chanel. The Italian Gianfranco Ferré has been called to Dior. Claude Montana has taken up the torch at Lanvin, and with success as he received the "D'Or" (Golden Thimble) Award this year.

The death of Paris couture, which has been announced thousands of times, is not for the near future. If, one day, it was to disappear, it would rise in a new form, the following day, like a phoenix — L'Actualité En France.

By Mark Fritz
The Associated Press

RUEGEN, Germany (AP) — With soaring sand dunes, sprawling forests and beautiful bays, the island of Ruegen at first seems as free from care as its swimmers are free from clothing.

But the placid island shares the woes of the rest of the former east Germany, off whose coast it lies. The economy has crashed and east German tourists mostly stayed away this summer.

"There are many, many formidable problems," says Christian Schnitzer, head of the Ruegen County Economics Department. "The challenge is to preserve Ruegen while restoring our economy."

Ruegen, home to 86,000 people, has a languid island pace. About half the swimmers on its beaches don't bother with bathing suits.

Larger than New York City, the 973-square-kilometre island is a three-hour ferry ride over the Baltic Sea from Sweden and Denmark, which supply most of the foreign tourists.

A ferry also runs to Klaipeda in Lithuania, but currently is being used to return Soviet soldiers vacating the country.

"We'd like to use that ferry for perhaps tourists from Poland, but we'll have to wait," says Rolf Buschewski, county tourism chief.

But tourism is second to agriculture on Ruegen, where 65 per cent of the land is arable, Mr. Schnitzer said.

"Tourism is highly seasonal and produces low-quality jobs," he said. "The key is reviving agriculture."

About 5,000 of the 8,000

Lush German island struggles to stay afloat

lectives lost their jobs since last year, Mr. Schnitzer said.

Joblessness overall was 12.5 per cent in June. Another 20 per cent work short hours at lower pay.

Mr. Schnitzer says the economy faces another blow because a large east German naval base is slated to close. The land is being turned into a federal preserve.

Mr. Schnitzer will visit the United States this fall to lure investors. He hopes to develop the processing end of the island's agriculture industry.

If agriculture is reeling, tourism is also down slightly because Ruegen is being avoided by eastern Germans. About 60 per cent of the visitors now are curious western Germans, said Mr. Buschewski.

"With the borders opened, easterners are travelling to places they couldn't visit before," he said.

But others complain they are being priced out of their once heavily subsidised vacationland.

"I can afford it, but I don't see how eastern Germans can," said West Berlin fireman Ralf Penke, honeymooning with his east German wife.

Ruegen used to be a favourite haunt of Communist Party chief Erich Honecker and his lieutenants.

They often stayed at the plush Cliff Hotel, a squat, fortress-like structure that juts from the forest on the southwest coast.

Party leaders also had exclusive use of the pristine little island of Vilm, just off Ruegen's south coast. Vilm is now a wildlife sanctuary.

The Communist Party's

PEN PALS

To the Editor:
We would like to publish our names and addresses in the Jordan Times.

We are Ghanaian students interested in having pen-friends in Jordan.

Our addresses are as follows:

- Eric Ockley Connashar
P.O. Box 501, Cape Coast, Ghana
Age: 17 years
Sex: Male
Hobbies: Swimming, jogging, writing and music.
- Margaret Esi Connashar (Miss)
P.O. Box 501, Cape Coast, Ghana
Age: 22 years
Sex: Female
Hobbies: Music, cycling, hockey, jogging and knitting.
- Jemimah Ekua Tyson
P.O. Box 501, Cape Coast, Oguza, Ghana
Age: 28 years
Sex: Female
Hobbies: Lawn tennis, chess, volleyball, cycling and basketball.

Thanks in advance

Margaret Connashar

Van Damme kick-boxes his way to the top

By Dana Kennedy
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — "Do you trust me?"

The voice, slightly taunting, belongs to 30-year-old martial arts superstar Jean-Claude Van Damme, about to demonstrate how close he comes to your face with his deadly high kick.

It sounds like a line from double impact, his latest in a string of kick-boxing blockbusters. But this time it's no movie.

Van Damme flexes his powerful chest, the result of daily four-hour workouts, and gazes down at his pointy-tipped cowboy boots.

He abandons his stance for a minute and walks over sympathetically.

"I'm pretty good but there's always a chance I hit you," he says in his lilting

Belgian accent, flashing a wide smile.

Then he moves back. His leg comes up so fast the winds blow by your face in a blur. Reflexes don't work.

"He came this close," says his wife, Gladys, holding her thumb and forefinger about a half-inch (centimetre) apart.

Van Damme throws back his head and laughs. It's just another delightful moment in the enchanted life of Van Damme, Hollywood's newest action hero and the latest European emigre to land in America and mop up the competition.

He is charming, without appearing too calculating, and intense, grilling those who interview and photograph him.

"You are a hero, my friend," he tells a photographer, a World War II veteran who Van Damme abandoned his career there to

learn served in his native Belgium.

And to call him a little flirtatious is like saying the Sultan of Brunei has a few dollars in the bank.

"My one weakness is women," he confides in a hotel restaurant, while his third wife eats a plate of pasta nearby.

Van Damme plucks several vitamins from his shirt pocket and slides them furtively across the table.

"They will make you strong sexually," he whispers.

Like Arnold Schwarzenegger, Van Damme arrived in California virtually penniless in 1980. He navigated his way to stardom by a canny combination of brain and brawn.

Though he was a karate star and health club owner in Belgium, Van Damme abandoned his career there to

pursue a lifelong dream of movie acting.

"I don't care about the money. It's only paper to me," says Van Damme, whose films such as *Lionheart*, *Cyborg* and *Deathsport* have grossed millions. "I just want to make good movies."

Like Schwarzenegger, Van Damme speaks with an Evangelical fervour.

"When you have two feet and two hands, anything is possible," he says, mounting a familiar refrain of how a humble immigrant can arrive here with little more than discipline and ambition and easily overtake the soft Americans.

Van Damme says he ran afoul of such men early in his career when he was living out of his car.

"The people who run the studios come from good fami-

lies and have college educations but they know nothing of the street," he says. "They all follow the rules. That's not my way. If I follow rules, I have to wait years to be an actor and I have to develop a Shakespearean accent or something."

To jump-start his career, Van Damme sought out independent filmmakers more like himself — brassy street-wise producers such as Menahem Golan who gave him his first starring role in 1987's *Bloodsport*.

Van Damme said he was forced to sign a contract when he was "starving" to do a series of martial arts films, and he never envisioned that the movies would turn him into an international star.

In *Double Impact*, he plays dual roles as twin brothers and has his first love scene. He also co-wrote and co-

produced the film.

"I found out that 75 percent of my fans are women," Van Damme says, his face lighting up. "So we put in a love scene for them."

But he plans to leave karate behind as soon as possible. Two of his next three films will be mainstream movies, he said. He has one deal with Carlo and another with superproducer Jon Peters (*Batman*).

Van Damme wants to eventually direct and achieve the rank of the movie stars he admired as a child in Belgium — "Real men" like Steve McQueen, Anthony Quinn and Marlon Brando.

"To me the biggest joy is to have a passion and have an impact on people through movies," he said.

"I follow nobody," he said. "There is only one Van Damme."



Jean-Claude Van Damme in a scene from his film *Death Warrant*.

Half Dream — a title that mirrors dancer's life

By Martha Waggoner
The Associated Press

DURHAM, (AP) — Half Dream serves not only as the title for the work choreographed by Jin Xing, but also reflects the 23-year-old dancer-choreographer's life.

Jin came to the United States in 1989 for what was supposed to be a nine-month cultural exchange program.

Tiananmen Square — and his own dreams — interfered.

Jin, who has married an American gymnast, talks of becoming a permanent U.S. resident, though he'd like to return to his homeland one day.

He has spent the summer in Durham as one of four in the international choreographers commissioning programme at the American Dance Festival (ADF). He talks opera lessons and hopes to be a singer, too.

Now Jin is seeing the first major production of one of his dances, *Half Dream* is a modern dance set to 5,000-year-old Chinese music.

The dream needs the audience to be completed, he said, explaining that parts can be a nightmare and it's up to the audience to interpret.

"Just so they can feel something," he said.

Jin likes the combination of old and new, just as he likes the mix of modern dance — a Western art form — with Chinese culture and tradition.

"It's a beautiful mesh," he said.

The mesh was made possible by two people — Charles Reinhart, ADF director, and Yang Meiqi, director of the Guangdong Dance Academy in the Guangdong province, formerly Canton.

When Yang visited the ADF four years ago, she asked Reinhart to help her

build a modern dance programme at the Guangdong Academy, where students previously had concentrated on Russian ballet and Chinese folk dance.

ADF sent teachers with the understanding they would help develop Chinese modern dance, not teach the Western form.

The modern dances performed by the Guangdong dancers in China must be approved by government officials. But Reinhart said modern dance is a difficult art form for censors.

"If there are words, they can understand," he said. "Modern dance is more of a feeling, more of an impression. It's not so direct. The censors don't know what to do with modern dance."

For example, one dance described as a woman in bed contemplating an abortion also has been described as a woman fighting insomnia.

Yang seems to speak freely about modern dance in China, but she chooses her words more carefully when asked about Jin. He was one of her students and supposed to return to China to help her teach modern dance.

When Yang speaks of modern dance — through an interpreter — she talks of "developing the creative spirit and the character of the individual" and of the dancer's chance "to freely express himself or herself."

The modern dance programme has been developed with the cooperation of the province officials, she said. China is now "open to the rest of the world so we have a chance to know more things about modern dance."

But the company's efforts haven't always been a hit with Chinese audiences, she said.

"Some think modern dance is too abstract ... the Chinese audience likes to see the beautiful things and the beautiful style. We show the abstract, the natural," she said.

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the Chinese allow the dancers to continue with this Western art form. He doubts the troupe would be allowed to continue in Peking, but Guangdong's proximity to Hong Kong helps the dancers continue, he said. "There is a different point of view," he said.

"I think Jin Xing can choose his own road," she said. "If he wants to come back, he is welcome."

At some points in history, Jin's decision might have stopped the Guangdong dancers from performing in China, much less in the United States.

But David Hochoy, an ADF choreographer who taught in China last fall for 10 weeks, believes that since the Communist Chinese government's brutal crackdown on the pro-democracy movement in Peking's Tiananmen Square in June 1989, "the Chinese government is very eager to make a good impression on the outside world."

Reinhart is uncertain why

Yang agreed. "We have more opportunities to have culture and arts exchange with the outside," she said. "So the ideas and thoughts of people are active."

Reinhart said there's no political tension, and he doesn't think about the possibility of dancers defecting.

"I'm not concerned about that. What happens, happens," he said, adding that the Chinese modern dancers "have the same incredible drive that all modern dance pioneers have."

Said Hochoy: "The mere fact they're here is a miracle."

Garcia Marquez still productive after winning Nobel Prize

By John Wright
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Gabriel Garcia Marquez says he has never felt daunted by winning the Nobel Prize in literature, which brings with it distractions as well as distinction.

"When one is a writer, he writes under whatever circumstances before and after the prize, whatever," the 1982 winner said in a recent interview. "The only thing that stops a writer is death."

Winning the Nobel can burden an author with a busy schedule of speeches, interviews and other public appearances, leaving little time for the pursuit that gained him recognition: Writing.

But Garcia Marquez, energetic at 63, pooh-poohs this, and he remains productive and creative.

"I'm writing a novel and my memoirs at the same time. But I'm very busy with other things now, and I'm taking a break from literature," Garcia Marquez said.

The author of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* and *Chronicle of a Foreseen Death* is credited with inventing a literary style called "magical realism" in which fantastic events seem credible.

He has popularised Latin American literature in North America and Europe and helped create a readership for a whole generation of writers.

Some critics have said that writers produce little of value after winning the Nobel. Garcia Marquez responded, "That's a lie."

"Since winning the Nobel Prize, I wrote *Love in the Time of Cholera* and *The General in His Labyrinth*. I've written all sorts of things since that," he emphasised.

Besides his novels, he has written numerous short stories and screenplays. His essays and articles on diverse topics appear frequently in Latin American newspapers.

Garcia Marquez was guest of honour at the 1991 Latin Film Festival in New York, but he didn't attend the inaugural festivities because about 50 anti-Cuba protesters blocked his path.

As president of the Foundation for New Latin American Cinema in Cuba, he has had difficulty getting a visa to come to the United States due, in part, to his friendship with Cuban President Fidel Castro.

Garcia Marquez used to spend quite a bit of time in Havana at the cinema school. Now he can be found increasingly back in Colombia.

"I didn't stay in Colombia because I didn't feel that conditions in Colombia were good enough," he said of his homeland which has endured years of guerrilla war between the government and leftist rebels as well as a reign of terror by drug barons.

"For 10 years, every security service in the world was trying to catch Pablo Escobar and couldn't. And President Gaviria captured him with a decree," he said.

By confessing to a crime, the 41-year-old head of the Medellin cocaine cartel and other drug lords become eligible for a reduced sentence and the government's promise not to extradite them. Escobar, who surrendered in June, was wanted for murder and other charges.

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What he writes from afar always goes back to one simple, central theme, he said.

His works always explore "the search for identity for who we are, what makes us distinctly Latin Americans," he said. "I never find the answer, because the day I find it, I won't write anymore. I'd rather not find it and go on looking for it."

Hank Sasaki — a not so typical country singer

By Joe Edwards
The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tennessee — He's your typical country singer. He plays guitar, writes songs, sings about cowboys, wears jeans and boots and grew up listening to Hank Williams.

And he has a southern accent — from southern Japan.

Hank Sasaki, a veteran performer in Japan, has spent the past three years in Nashville. His goal: To become the first Japanese-born star in country music history.

"I want to prove country music can be international music," Sasaki said.

"Country music is about hard-working people and songs telling about ordinary human life — sadness, hope."

"Country music relates to everybody, no matter where you're from or what language you speak. They are songs everybody can sing, even children."

Sasaki, who won't reveal his age, was born and raised in a small village in Japan. He traces his interest in country music to when he was 15 and heard a Hank Williams song on the radio.

"It touched my heart. I almost cried," he said.

About the same time, his mother bought him a guitar.

At 18, he moved to the city of Fukuoka and joined a Japanese country music band.

He spent eight years with the group, performing often at nearby U.S. military bases. U.S. servicemen nick-

Charlie Haden — a man who launched a musical revolution

By Charles J. Gans
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — It's been more than 30 years since bassist Charlie Haden helped launch a musical revolution with Ornette Coleman's "free jazz" quartet. Today, he remains an insurgent, combining a passion for creative music with a deep-rooted concern for human rights and racial equality.

At a time when young jazz musicians are playing older styles like Bebop, the 54-year-old Haden continues to expand his musical horizons.

His deep, rich bass can be heard on recent albums with a wide range of styles: Pop musicians Rickie Lee Jones and Bruce Hornsby; jazz musicians Stan Getz, David Sanborn and Paul Bley; Portuguese 14-string guitar master Carlos Paredes and Gomalo Rubalcaba, a Cuban jazz pianist Haden discovered on a 1986 trip to Japan.

He's also performed periodically on Cable TV's The Nashville Network, and he's appeared in concert across the south.

One of his most popular tunes is *Japanese Cowboy*. Also in his repertoire are songs like *The Last Samurai* and Western-sounding tunes like *The Cowboy Rides Away*.

He also performs the traditional *Will The Circle Be Unbroken*, *Unbroken*, and *Sukiyaki*, which was a No. 1 pop song in the United States in 1963 by Kyu Sakamoto. It was also released in 1981 by the duo *A Taste Of Honey*.

Haden regularly wins Jazz magazine polls as the top acoustic bassist. Like the late

Charles Mingus, Haden has gone beyond the bassist's traditional background role to establish himself as a bandleader and composer.

In July, Haden toured Europe with his Liberation Music Orchestra (LMO), whose roots go back to the Vietnamese protest era of the late 1

Giving Directions

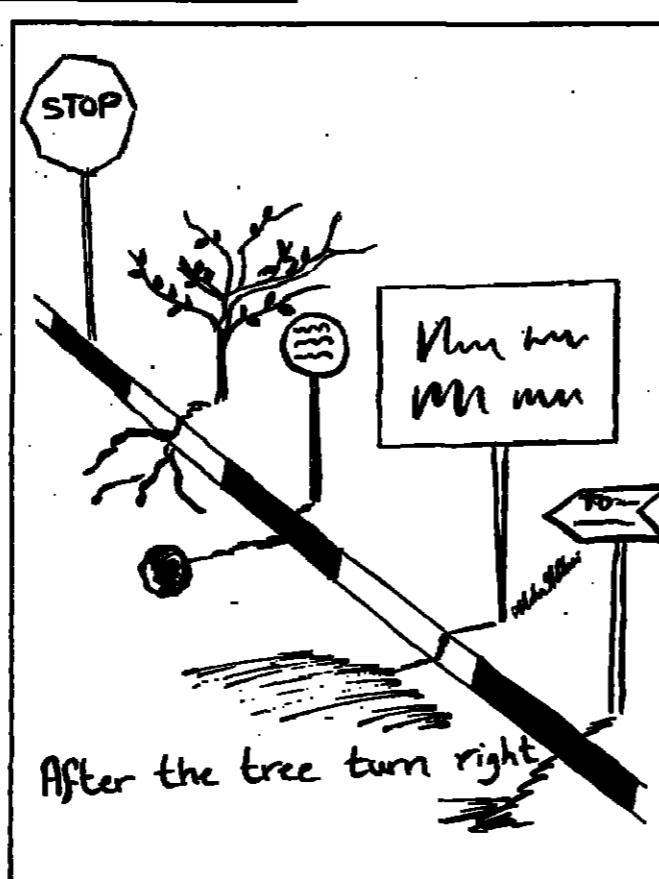
By Maha Addasi

ASK anyone at random for directions to their house and it will be a surefire way to make your head spin. The directions will be something like this: You go to such and such circle and then take the first right turn. Then you will come across a huge bump in the road. There you would turn right again. You'll see two trees. You turn left after the big tree. Right after your turn you will find a mound of sand used for the construction of a house in the area and this opposite that is our house. If I were given directions such as these I would no longer want to visit those people. I'd give up when a tree is considered a landmark. Or better yet a sand mound. What if the tree was eaten by a goat that week. Or the construction people used up the entire sand-pile. Then what?

Of course there is another alternative which is to follow behind in your car as the person you are visiting leads in his or her car. And if you are in the leading car your patience will be tried like no other time. The person following you either tailgates you so you can't breathe and they can't even see the left and right signals. Or they follow one mile behind you and end up getting caught at every traffic light so that by the time this happens for the third time you just want to drive off. You don't want them to visit you any more.

The third alternative is to shove your visitors in your car and take them home with you. At which time they will gossip all the way to your house and not even take note of the landmarks and directions. You are back at square one.

Some people draw maps. They're clear as mud, but nevertheless, they are maps. Maps are something we are in dire need of. The houses are numbered. The streets are named, (although the names are often hidden behind, you guessed it, sandmounds and overgrown trees). Why not make your own personalised, professional looking maps? All you need to do is get a map of Jordan and make



miniature prints of the area your house is in. Enlarge it and add all the detailed directions and your trees. Then reduce it once again. After that you could find a print shop and have this personal map reprinted. To get to the print shop, I'm afraid you need directions.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHSTONE

THE SAPPHIRE

Family: Corundum.

Colour: From pale to cornflower blue. Also found in shades of green, pink, purple, orange and yellow.

Geographical sources: Australia, Kalimantan, Burma, Ceylon, Kashmir, Thailand and America.

Legendary background: The gem of the soul and autumn, considered the most spiritual of all gems representing the purity of the soul as it mirrors the blue of heaven. By wearing a sapphire it was thought possible to reject envy and attract divine favour. According to the ancients it possessed power to influence spirits, to charm against wantonness, to promote peace and to protect its owner from

captivity. The Persians thought that the earth rested on a giant sapphire whose pale blue reflection could be seen in the sky. Sorcerers honoured it more than any other stone as it allegedly allowed them to hear and to understand the most obscure of oracles.

Qualities: Charm and enduring love.

Jewellery interpretations: Over the centuries it has had a place of honour in the Royal Regalia. Two appear in the British Imperial State Crown, one of which was owned by Edward the Confessor. A Pope in the 6th century decreed that a sapphire ring could be worn on the right hand of cardinals to make the blessing. The rare "Star" sapphire viewed from above gives a six-rayed effect, due to the peculiar crystal structure reflecting the light.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Thursday, Sept. 5

1514 — Selim I of Turkey enters Tabriz, Persia.

1590 — Duke of Parma, advancing from the Netherlands, forces France's King Henry IV to lift siege of Paris in Catholic League War.

1658 — Dutch take Jaffnapatam, last Portuguese possession in Ceylon.

1658 — New East India Company is granted charter by King William III of England; Peter the Great executes the Strelitz rebels in Russia and imposes tax on beards.

1798 — Turkey declares war on France.

1860 — Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, Russia and Turkey sign treaty to restore order in Syria after massacre of Christians by Druzes.

1864 — Combined British, French and Dutch fleets attack Japan in Shimonesko Straits in reprisal for closing ports and expelling foreigners.

1905 — Treaty of Portsmouth (New Hampshire, U.S.), with U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt mediating, ends Russo-Japanese War.

1939 — United States proclaims neutrality, in World War II.

1949 — Arrests are made in Saudi Arabia following reports of abortive coup.

1977 — Gunmen in West Germany kidnap prominent German industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer and kill four of his bodyguards.

1986 — Four gunmen holding hijacked Pan Am jet in Pakistan open fire on passengers without warning, and witnesses say at least 100 people are gunned down.

1987 — Israeli jets blast Palestinian bases near Sidon, killing 41 people and wounding 60.

1989 — Hundreds of thousands of blacks begin two-day strike in South Africa on eve of segregated elections.

1990 — Iraq renews call for

holy war against Saudi Arabia and other Arab nations supporting blockade.

Friday, Sept. 6

1565 — Spanish troops arrive from Sicily, and Turks are forced to abandon siege of Malta.

1620 — Pilgrims sail on the Mayflower from Plymouth, England, to settle in the new world.

1672 — William of Orange captures Naarden in Holland.

1688 — Turks lose Belgrade to Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I, whose forces subsequently occupy Austria, Serbia and Wallachia.

1715 — Jacobite uprising known as "the fifteen" begins at Braemar in Scotland.

1761 — Treaty of the Hague, known as the Grand Alliance, is signed, whereby Britain, Holland and Holy Roman Empire ally against France.

1794 — France signs peace of Baden with Holy Roman Empire, whereby France keeps Alsace and Strasbourg.

1795 — Stanislaus Poniatowski, protege of Russia, is elected King of Poland.

1812 — Russia begins retreat after defeat by French at Borodino and begins to abandon Moscow.

1822 — Brazil proclaims independence from Portugal.

1848 — Serfdom is abolished in Austria.

1901 — Peace of Peking ends boxer rebellion in China.

1926 — Chiang Kai-Shek's forces reach Hankow in his northern campaign in Chinese civil war.

1935 — Anti-Greek riots break out at Istanbul and Izmir in Turkey.

1945 — India invades West Pakistan and bombs city of Lahore.

1966 — Prime Minister Hendrik F. Verwoerd of South Africa is stabbed to death during parliament session in Cape Town.

1975 — More than 2,300 people are killed by earthquake in eastern Turkey.

1987 — Chadian troops strike into Libyan territory for first time and claim to have annihilated a military air-ground complex.

1988 — Iraq government declares amnesty for anti-government Kurds.

1989 — Cuban airliner crashes into suburb on takeoff from Havana, killing 170 people.

1990 — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher announces plans to reinforce her country's troops in the Gulf.

Saturday, Sept. 7

1599 — Britain's Earl of Essex signs truce with Irish rebel Tyrone.

1701 — Treaty of the Hague, known as the Grand Alliance, is signed, whereby Britain, Holland and Holy Roman Empire ally against France.

1790 — Japan and South Korea join Kuwait in pledging to contribute to massive costs of economic and military campaign against Iraq in the Gulf.

1794 — France signs peace of Baden with Holy Roman Empire, whereby France keeps Alsace and Strasbourg.

1795 — Stanislaus Poniatowski, protege of Russia, is elected King of Poland.

1812 — Russia begins retreat after defeat by French at Borodino and begins to abandon Moscow.

1822 — Brazil proclaims independence from Portugal.

1848 — Serfdom is abolished in Austria.

1901 — Peace of Peking ends boxer rebellion in China.

1926 — Chiang Kai-Shek's forces reach Hankow in his northern campaign in Chinese civil war.

1935 — Anti-Greek riots break out at Istanbul and Izmir in Turkey.

1945 — India invades West Pakistan and bombs city of Lahore.

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1975 — More than 2,300 people are killed by earthquake in eastern Turkey.

1987 — Chadian troops strike into Libyan territory for first time and claim to have annihilated a military air-ground complex.

1988 — Iraq government declares amnesty for anti-government Kurds.

1989 — Cuban airliner crashes into suburb on takeoff from Havana, killing 170 people.

1988 — Growing unrest prompts several foreign countries to order families of diplomats evacuated from Burma.

1989 — Sri Lanka government, in bid to end country's ethnic conflict, invites Sinhalese and Tamil militants for peace talks.

1990 — Japan and South Korea join Kuwait in pledging to contribute to massive costs of economic and military campaign against Iraq in the Gulf.

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1794 — France

Organs for sale

By Clare Pedrick

ROME — The case of Californian baby Marissa Ayala, deliberately conceived for the lifesaving bone marrow she was able to supply to her dying older sister, has touched off a new round of moral soul-searching in medical and theological circles. Is it right, people have been asking, for a couple to bring a child into the world with the sole aim of using parts of that infant's body to save another member of the family?

In general, public opinion appears to have come down in favour of the Ayalas. They took the only chance they had of saving their 19-year-old daughter fatally ill with a chronic strain of leukemia, and their gamble paid off. The bone marrow transplant on the elder sister appears to have been a success, and the younger child, now 17 months old, is none the worse for her ordeal and ready to get on with the rest of her life.

But the Ayala case has highlighted other dilemmas, far more difficult to answer. The Californian couple resorted to extremes because they were unable to find an existing donor within the family, whose bone marrow would have been compatible. But every day that situation repeats itself around the world, say transplant surgeons meeting in Rome. Every day, they say, doctors are forced to make difficult decisions about who should live and who should die — and about how many questions they should be asking about the provenance of organs used in transplants.

A desperate worldwide shortage of organs from cadavers — the traditional source of hearts, kidneys, lungs, livers and corneas for transplants — means more and more people are dying needlessly, say medical experts. In the U.S. and Europe, there are simply not enough people who die young and healthy to satisfy the growing demand for transplant operations. Ironically, seat belt, helmet and speed limit laws have all helped to drastically reduce the number of organs available to surgeons. Lack of public awareness and coordination between hospitals and doctors have done the rest. In the U.S. and Europe only one-sixth of the potential donors are actually utilized.

In many parts of the developing world, there is virtually no supply of cadaver

donors whatsoever, due to a combination of religious objections and lack of public information or infrastructure for transplants.

One answer to the shortage has been to turn to living donors, either those who, as in the case of the Ayalas, are related to the victim, or, more troubling, "volunteer" donors who are prepared to part with an organ in return for remuneration, usually in the form of hard cash. The former practice is now widely accepted in the international medical community, albeit with certain misgivings: A mother gives a kidney to save a child. Sisters and brothers donate a lobe of their liver to help a sibling. Wherever the organ is superfluous — the body can function quite well with just one kidney — or regenerative as in the case of the liver and bone marrow, the donation of an organ from one family member to another can be the only answer when time is of the essence and waiting lists are long.

How much is a kidney worth?

But the second option — the paid-for organ — has the medical profession writhing in collective agonies of self-doubt. Is it right for a healthy but financially burdened man or woman to deprive himself of one of his kidneys or a piece of skin in order to give his children a better education or put a roof over his family's head? Does the child of a wealthy family, suffering from kidney disease, have the right to live by buying an organ from a poor family in the developing world, when a child from Africa or India would certainly die? And at what point does the legitimate sale of an organ for the sake of the family stop and pure greed take over? Is it right to sell one's organs to buy a new car instead of things that are basic for survival? How desperate must a man be to part with a kidney? And how much is a kidney worth?

Only the last question seems to have an easy answer. A kidney is worth whatever a person is prepared to pay for it, and like any other commodity, it is subject to market prices, dictated by supply and demand.

At present, the going rate in India, one of the main sources of organs for the wealthier countries, is between \$2,000 and \$4,000, say doctors who have studied this growing industry.

And the black market in organs certainly is



Dr. Raffaele Cortesini, one of Europe's top transplant surgeons, heads the Society for Organ Sharing which aims to regulate the 'organ' market.

flourishing. "The problem is very grave especially in India and Brazil," said Italian transplant surgeon Dr. Raffaele Cortesini, president-elect of the Society for Organ Sharing, an association of doctors which aims to control the distribution of organs and which held its first international congress in Rome earlier this summer. In fact, evidence gathered by doctors suggests that a brisk trade in organs is operating in many parts of the developing world, including India, Pakistan, South America, Mexico, China and parts of South East Asia.

"There are some clinics in India that specialise in doing kidney transplants using paid donors, especially in Bombay," said Dr. Cortesini, who is one of Europe's leading transplant surgeons. Bombay is the centre for clients from the Middle East, say doctors. Madras, in the south, has clinics that tend to be patronised by wealthy patients from Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia.

In India, Pakistan, parts of Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe people openly run advertisements in newspapers, offering a kidney for sale. In Hong Kong earlier this year, a businessman contacted several doctors, offering to act as broker between patients needing re-

nal transplants and a military hospital in Nanjing, China, which would perform the operations and which claimed to have a supply of "volunteer" donors. In China itself, an estimated 2,000 transplants a year are carried out with kidneys taken from living donors. An unknown number is also performed using organs from prisoners who have been executed. In the Philippines, there have been cases documented where prisoners have been granted reduced sentences or parole in exchange for the gift of a kidney.

In the industrialised world, some countries such as the U.S. have placed an outright ban on remuneration for organs. Britain outlawed the selling of organs in 1989 after a Turkish citizen complained he had moved to London on the strength of a job offer only to be mysteriously anaesthetised and robbed of one of his kidneys. Germany is about to pass legislation in the wake of attempts by a clinic in Moscow to sell kidneys to patients in Germany.

As for the surgeons whose job it is to carry out the transplants, they are trying to come up with their own set of guidelines. But there is still no real consensus. "The idea of transplants is something that is so new and has developed so quickly," said Dr.

Cortesini. "Our culture has not kept pace. Science and technology have moved too fast." Like many surgeons from the industrialised world, he finds the idea of paid-for organs unacceptable. He is adamant he would never operate on a patient if he believed the organ had been sold by its owner, even if the transplant could save his patient's life. At the Rome conference, there was some discussion among doctors of a way of what Dr. Cortesini describes as "rewarding a gift" from a living donor. This could take the form of a social insurance policy funded by the government, he said. "The difference is between being reimbursed and being paid," but he added, clearly uncomfortable, "I am not convinced."

The further Dr. Cortesini



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will go in admitting the idea of an incentive to encourage people to bequeath their organs after their death. This could range from help with funeral expenses to funds set up for the donors' children, left behind. "For us this is much more equitable," said the Italian doctor. "We have to discourage donors from the living and encourage them from the dead. In India they burn cadavers. They destroy the body, while at the same time selling organs from people who are still alive."

The aim of the Society for Organ Transplants is to bring about reversal of that situation, through a combined strategy which includes pressuring governments to outlaw organ selling, educating the public to accept the idea of donating organs after death, and helping to set up legitimate transplant centres in the developing world. Already there are transplant programmes operating in Singapore, Hong Kong, Manila, India and Turkey. New centres were opened recently in Oman and Saudi Arabia and one in Kuwait is being rebuilt. Often they are staffed by surgeons trained in Western hospitals and the standards are high — unlike those in some of the unofficial clinics. "There the results are often very bad," said Dr. Cortesini. "Once there are good centres in the developing world, the illicit trade in organs and the back street clinics will die out."

But while most doctors agree on the need to control organ distribution, at least one surgeon has cautioned the industrialised nations not to judge the developing world by their own standards. Dr. Raj Yadav, director of transplant surgery at Badra Hospital and Medical Research Centre in New Delhi, says he too is totally opposed to the sale of organs from the poorer corners of the world to the wealthy. But he claims a controlled market for parts of the human body, donated voluntarily and in exchange for compensation, could be an answer for some developing countries that have no source of organs from cadavers.

Dr. Yadav's opinion, he says, is the result of more than 20 years of trying to establish a successful transplant programme in India. Although transplants are performed there, he says, many people die each year because of the lack of usable organs. In the absence of corpse-donors, surgeons are forced to rely almost exclusively on living, related donors willing to sacrifice an organ to save a relative. And their number is scarce.

"In the past, I have always been against anything but living, related donor transplant programmes," said Dr. Yadav in an interview. "But in the past four to five years, I have started to think differently. I have worked very hard to try to set up cadaver transplant programmes, and

plants, I may have been duped at least six times," he said. "They may say 'this is my brother or my uncle,' but I have no means as a surgeon of identifying them and confirming what they say is true."

In the context of the developing world, maintains Dr. Yadav, ethics take on a different significance. "What if, on the one hand, you have a chap who has two sisters to marry and a house to build, and so is in dire need of money, while on the other hand you have a fellow who is dying of kidney disease?"

The incidence of renal disease is the same in the developing world as in the Western world, and people are aware of the good results that can be obtained with renal transplants, he added. "What choice does the patient have? Dialysis is not available, as it is in the U.S. or other Western countries. There are no cadaver donors available. And if there is no-one able or willing to give him a kidney, what should a patient do? I think no ethics in the world will condemn him to die" — World News Link.

Green tea may protect smokers from lung cancer

By Paul Raeburn
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Japanese preference for green tea may explain why Japanese men can smoke more than American men but still have lower rates of lung cancer, researchers said Monday.

The researchers found that consumption of green tea cut the lung cancer rate by 45 per cent in mice exposed to one of the most potent cancer-causing agents in cigarette smoke.

Other studies in animals suggested that drinking green tea could cut the rates of stomach and liver cancer, researchers reported at a national meeting of the American Chemical Society.

But the evidence is far too preliminary for researchers to recommend that people begin drinking green tea, said Allan H. Conney, director of the Laboratory for Cancer Research at Rutgers Uni-

versity in New Jersey.

"It's still too early to say what the significance of this is for humans," said Dr. Conney, who is studying how green tea and other foods affect cancer rates in animals. "My opinion is we should not ingest large amounts of green tea."

Fung-Lung Chung of the American Health Foundation in New York agreed that more research had to be done to confirm the cancer-preventive effect of green tea, but he added that one or two cups a day "wouldn't do any harm."

A researcher from the National Cancer Centre Research Institute in Tokyo was more sanguine about the use of green tea.

"We would like to think drinking green tea may be one of the most practical cancer preventions at the moment," Hirota Fujiki said.

Green tea is made from the same plant as the black tea

commonly consumed in Western countries, Dr. Conney said. But green tea undergoes less processing. Light processing converts it into Chinese oolong tea, and more extensive processing produces black tea, Dr. Conney said.

Dr. Conney has shown that green tea can slow the formation of skin cancer tumours in mice exposed to harmful ultraviolet radiation. In other experiments, it also inhibited the formation of stomach and lung cancer tumours in mice, he said.

Dr. Fujiki said that populations studies have shown reduced cancer rates in the Shizuoka Prefecture of central Japan, where green tea is produced and people drink far higher amounts than do other Japanese.

Dr. Chung noted that lung cancer mortality in Japan is much lower than in the United States, although the average consumption of cigarettes among males in

Japan is considerably higher. Green tea is one of several factors that might explain that, he said.

To explore the question, Dr. Chung exposed mice to a substance found in cigarette smoke called NNK, one of the class of cancer-causing agents called Nitrosamines. NNK may be the most potent cancer-causing agent in cigarette smoke, Dr. Chung said.

Mice exposed to NNK three times a week for 10 weeks developed an average of 22.5 lung tumours each. Mice that were given the same exposure to NNK and also given green tea developed 12.2 tumours each, a reduction of 45 per cent.

Dr. Chung said mice developed an average of 16.1 tumours, for a 30 per cent reduction, when exposed only to the active ingredient in green tea, a substance called EGCG, or Epigallocatechin Gallate.

Gene-altered farm animals make human proteins in milk

BOSTON (AP) — Gene splicers have created barnyard animals that make large quantities of medicine in their milk, taking a big step toward the creation of a new branch of agriculture — "Pharming."

The scientists already have transferred human genes into goats and sheep, turning these animals into pharmaceutical factories. And they are close to doing the same with ultimate barnyard milk maker, the cow.

Genetic engineers now routinely shift human genes into bacteria, yeast and tissue cultures so they will produce usable quantities of otherwise rare human proteins for treating disease. The goal is to do the same with much larger creatures capable of churning out vastly greater amounts.

"We are very close" to having commercially useful quantities, said Dr. Vernon G. Purcell, a research physiologist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Beltsville, Maryland. "We may be there."

For instance, a genetically

modified sheep in Scotland produced up to 2 ounces a day of a human protein used to treat a form of emphysema. This is four months' supply for one patient.

Three reports on the creation of so-called transgenic animals are being published in the Sept. 1 issue of the *Journal of Biotechnology*, released Monday.

The first transgenic animals to make foreign proteins in their milk were mice created by scientists four years ago. Researchers have also designed other gene-altered farm animals, including cattle, but the goal has been to change the size and characteristics of the animals, not produce human proteins in milk.

Dr. Purcell, who experiments with transgenic pigs, said the latest reports "may be significant advances," but "there are other big hurdles" besides boosting production.

Among them are efficiently separating the proteins from the milk, making sure they are pure and testing them to see how they com-

pare to genuine human proteins.

In another article in the journal, Dutch researchers from the University of Leiden and GenePharm Europe said they had produced the first transgenic dairy cattle intended to produce milk with human lactoferrin, an iron-binding protein.

In one of the new reports, researchers from Tufts University Veterinary School in Grafton and Genzyme Corp. of Cambridge described the first successful creation of transgenic goats that produce a human protein in their milk.

Their first female produced milk with tissue plasminogen activator, or TPA, a protein widely used to treat heart attacks. But the amounts of TPA were tiny — about three milligrams in each litre of milk.

Experts generally agree that transgenic animals must make one gramme or more of human protein per litre to compete economically with other gene-splicing techniques.

Dr. Karl M. Ebert, director of experimental biotechnology at the veterinary school, said the researchers have since produced a goat that makes three grammes of

TPA per litre.

In another article in the journal, Dutch researchers from the University of Leiden and GenePharm Europe said they had produced the first transgenic dairy cattle intended to produce milk with human lactoferrin, an iron-binding protein.

A commentary in the journal described their gene-splicing technique for cows as "a dramatic breakthrough in enlarging the transgenic pharm-yard."

Another team, from Pharmaceutical Proteins Ltd. and the AFRC Institute of Animal Physiology and Genetics Research in Edinburgh, produced three sheep that made human Alpha-1-Antitrypsin in their milk. This enzyme is used to prevent life-threatening emphysema in people who cannot make the substance on their own.

One of the animals made up to 70 grammes of the protein a day. The protein is now derived commercially from human blood.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD NOT RECEIVED

Arabic text: جريدة الحياة

UNRWA confident of solution

(Continued from page 1)

for services and that UNRWA had admitted 5,000 additional ex-Kuwait children in its schools in Jordan, and was offering health services to many returnees regardless whether they were registered with UNRWA or not.

"We have requested food and cash aid" from donor countries, "Mr. Turkmen said.

"We are in close cooperation with Jordanian authorities," he added. Appeals will be sent soon to donor countries explaining the new situation and requesting assistance," he said.

So far, Austria has donated \$500,000 and Canada and Germany have offered help. "At the moment however, we have no specific aid for the returnees except for classrooms and schools. But we are in constant contact with donor countries in case an emergency situation sets in," Mr. Turkmen said.

UNRWA does not discriminate between registered or non-registered refugees, Mr. Turkmen said. He said the number of non-registered refugees who require help was not known.

According to the UNRWA director general in Jordan, Frank de Jonge, "We have not differentiated between them (the registered and non-registered) but our first im-

pression is that most children are registered refugees."

Mr. De Jonge told the press conference that close to 90 per cent of the people who came to Jordan are registered with the U.N. agency. "We will know the exact figures soon," he said.

"If a non-registered child comes to us for assistance, we will not turn them back," Mr. De Jonge said.

Over the last year, UNRWA has increased its aid to the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including about 40,000 tonnes of food, according to Mr. Turkmen. UNRWA also operated clinics on a 24-hour basis, legal assistance and "much more," he said.

Earlier Wednesday, Mr. Turkmen met with Prime Minister Taher Masri to discuss ways of improving the agency's role and involving international charity organisations in helping Jordan handle the present situation.

Also discussed was how to relieve the hardship of the Palestinians and ways of extending help to them and medium and long-term solutions.

Mr. Turkmen said the hardships created urgent needs to provide the Palestinians with food and medicine.

Mr. Turkmen, who was expected to leave Thursday, will be comming back to Jordan at the end of the month.

Gorbachev advances bid to shift power

(Continued from page 1)

he said. The two votes were important procedural tests of support for the proposal by Mr. Gorbachev and leaders of 10 of the 15 republics to turn over most of the central government's remaining power to the republics and create an interim government during the transition to the new confederation.

But it also says that republics that do not want to enter the new union should negotiate with the USSR "to decide the whole complex of questions linked to separation."

Latvian deputy Yuri Boyars said his republic did not object to negotiations with Moscow. "This is what we have been requesting. This is the civilised way to go about it," he said.

Mr. Gorbachev also agreed to grant independence to the Baltic republics, officials said, 51 years after the states were annexed in a pact with Nazi Germany.

The commission was directed to work through the night to consider the various proposals and resubmit the drafts by Thursday morning, when the session will reconvene to consider them.

The resolution passed in principle calls for a treaty as soon as

PNC session delayed again

(Continued from page 1)

hamper the proposed peace conference.

"The Soviet leadership has stressed its adherence to continue its role in Middle East peace efforts despite the internal problems," Mr. Salman said when asked about Moscow's troubles in the revision of revolutionary politics through democratic reform of PLO institutions and organs."

The group is seeking wider representation of Palestinian interests with the PLO, which is dominated by Fatah.

The communiqué was issued by the PFLP office in Algiers.

Syrian Information Minister Mohammad Salman said Tuesday that the internal political upheaval in the Soviet Union would not

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Appreciating what we have

By Guido Romero

RECENTLY, in an emotional outburst, I pointed out a number of incidents that aroused concern for the future of the Jordanian tourism industry as a whole. My concern does not stem from a purely professional interest alone, but also by the fact that I am convinced that Jordan's economic strength can, and should, lie in tourism.

The natural resources are there: the sea with the reef and the beaches, the sun, virtually all-year-round, archaeological sites of great importance, the excitement of the desert and the magic of Wadi Rum, not to mention the curiosity and curative powers of the Dead Sea. Human resources are abundant and constitute a tremendous power just waiting to be harnessed and directed to become the driving force behind socio-economic development. Politically, Jordan represents a champion of stability and freedom of the individual when due consideration is given to the realities of the Middle East.

Really, we almost have it all, but do we appreciate it?

Let's start by looking at human resources, the main asset of an organisation.

It seems to me that, hotel and restaurant staff in Jordan have a very low opinion of themselves and therefore are psychologically handicapped in carrying out their jobs.

Employees feel they have no responsibility and few prospects and that they are treated with little respect by both managers and customers alike. Staff do not value product knowledge or speed of service, and end up annoying their customers even though they do not intend to do so. To the question "What is good service?", both staff and managers seem to agree on "politeness" as an answer.

Staff do not realise that even if they themselves are polite, they may still provoke customer irritation, which they interpret as rudeness, because they are slow, inefficient or not able to answer customers' inquiries.

Most often, this is the result of lack of emphasis, on behalf of management, on these spe-

cific issues. It is easier for managers to busy themselves with balancing the till at the end of the day than actually forming and informing their staff to enable them to interact efficiently with guests and/or staff from parallel departments. Sometimes, and this is more serious, managers voluntarily withhold training and information from their subordinates, fearing that they will eventually take over. In the first instance, the situation can be redressed simply by coaching managers on how to communicate their knowledge to their subordinates, and how to hold effective training sessions. It is something to possess the know-how, but it is more difficult to be able to pass it on effectively. In the second instance things may be somewhat more delicate. Usually these are lazy people with a deep knowledge of the G.M.'s work schedule. They are always on duty when the G.M. is, therefore obtaining a maximum of exposure, and never miss a chance to "fill-in" in detail on how productive they have been, how long it kept them away from their families and what difficulties they had to overcome. These individuals tend to get credit also for things they have not done. They usually have no interest in furthering their own skills and work against the principals of team-work. Their devious manner makes it difficult to

spot these elements. Fortunately this breed of managers is rare and we can turn our attention to working with honest people whose motivation and curiosity can be stimulated quite easily.

Improving staff performance may not be easy. A possible solution could be improving the self-image of employees and increasing their pride, by any means available. It is also important to create between management and subordinates an atmosphere of cooperation and understandings of each other's positions within the organisation.

Information sharing is paramount to team-work. It provides staff with the basic tools to interact with customers and fellow workers, builds responsibility and confidence, therefore, lowering turnover. Confidence is an essential trait in carrying out any job and it can only be achieved through practice. Practice, in turn, is achieved through training in a controlled environment where an employee has time to formulate an adequate response to a fictitious situation (role play). In a further development the same response may be applied successfully, with slight variations, in a real life situation.

Top management and owners may argue that training is a luxury that only five-star hotels or international organisations could afford. "It is expensive

and time-consuming," is their favourite argument. But, suppose that evidence of an ongoing training and development programme was required for businesses to attain a certain rating within the industry. Would this make things any easier for entrepreneurs who tend to drag their feet in improving quality?

On a different level, but always within the context of improving service quality and strengthening Jordan's image as a leader in the field, there is another piece of infrastructure that we seem to have forgotten about: The Hotel Training School located near the Fifth Circle. All this school seems to do, is turn out people who are randomly assigned to various hotels and restaurants around town for "training." More often than not, the trainees are used as a source of cheap labour to improve "bottom lines" on profit & loss statements of the establishment they have been assigned to.

There does not seem to be a programme in place whereby the school monitors these students' performance, progress or position effectively. I have known a trainee to have been assigned to the room service department, in one of Amman hotels, for at least two consecutive years. This future employee has never had a glimpse at the reception, reservations, marketing, kitchen or any other department in the hotel

but room service. How can this justify hiring a hotel management graduate, who expects to be paid more, instead of someone with minimal experience?

Why shouldn't the Hotel Association, with the Restaurant Association, the Travel Agents Association, RJ, the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Education, all get together and establish a fund for reviving the Amman Hotel Training School and provide it with academic and professional advice? Why not allocate a portion of government funds to this end? Why not institute a programme whereby the trainee is monitored from the time he/she leaves the school for training to the time he/she gets back.

Possibly, we could aim at becoming the Middle East centre for hotel and tourism management.

It is time to come out of this lethargy and take a look at what the country has to offer and exploit it productively.

There is so much potential and it is immediately translatable.

able in hard currency. We could make Jordan the country to visit in the Middle East, and a model for other neighbouring countries to emulate. Entrepreneurs must want to improve despite the absence of competition in some areas. It is a question of making it better for quality's sake. Improve the image of your employees, and the standard of your operation will increase accordingly.

We should also take advantage of the fact that today we are experiencing an employer's market, one can pick and choose the best men for the job. Do not hesitate to stimulate staff's curiosity, motivation and pride. Finally, some food for thought. Let's give some consideration to how government regulations, or deregulation, could be formulated and applied to improve the standard of service.

The writer is a graduate of hotel management. He contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.



Aqaba's golden beaches and wide range of entertainment possibilities are great assets for the tourism industry. But is it enough to attract customers and make them feel welcome?

American priest in Soviet far east

By Julia Rubin

The Associated Press

MAGADAN, USSR — Residents of this Siberian city, built in Josef Stalin's reign without churches, temples or mosques, heard an unusual advertisement on the sea of Okhotsk.

Rev. Mohrbacher isn't waiting.

"Many people here want to learn, to talk about very fundamental ideas of God, whatever their religion," he said at the home of one of his students, where he is staying until he can get his own apartment.

Rev. Mohrbacher is not waiting. "Many people here want to learn, to talk about very fundamental ideas of God, whatever their religion," he said at the home of one of his students, where he is staying until he can get his own apartment.

"I was saying I was here if anyone wanted to come talk to me, receive any of the Sacraments, anything — what hours I'm available," said Rev. Mohrbacher, a Roman Catholic priest who arrived in Magadan by way of Alaska.

Rev. Mohrbacher gave up his parish in Roebling, N.J., and moved to Magadan for the Archdiocese of Anchorage, which is creating an ecumenical centre of religion and culture in a

vacant lot near downtown.

Plans have been drawn and a deal made with the regional government, but no one knows when work will begin on the modern wood-and-glass building in a city of crumbling apartment blocks on the sea of Okhotsk.

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Soviet Union has no such religious tradition.

Catholics are the second largest Christian denomination in the Soviet Union.

Magadan was built by slave laborers as a gateway to concentration camps. It was populated from the beginning by exiles and immigrants from elsewhere in the country.

Even today, residents tend to be young, lured to Magadan's harsh climate by high hardship salaries and visions of opportunity in its mines and other resource industries.

The city does have a church now — a house converted by

Pentecostals for use in regular services. Seventh-Day Adventists also hold services in Magadan, but also especially free to learn.

"We have to isolate our situation in Magadan from the situation in western Russia, with its political, religious and ethnic history," Archbishop Hurley said.

Archbishop Francis Hurley of Anchorage said he did not know how many people with Catholic

backgrounds lived in the region.

Catholicism is the second largest Christian denomination in the Soviet Union.

He said the Ecumenical centre's purpose is to teach people about a variety of faiths and cultures. He and Rev. Mohrbacher have been meeting with Russian Orthodox leaders, trying to win their support for the project.

Negotiations and discussions

move slowly in Magadan, he said,

and development of the Ecumenical centre is

Capriati beats Sabatini; faces Seles in semis

NEW YORK (AP) — Jennifer Capriati, walloping serves more than 100 mph (170 kph), took a giant step toward becoming the youngest U.S. Open winner in history as she reached the semifinals by toppling defending champion Gabriela Sabatini.

Capriati, at 15 already one of the strongest women in tennis, beat Sabatini for the first time in a full match, 6-3, 7-6 (7-1) Tuesday, overpowering her on serves and groundstrokes, pounding back returns from midcourt and, at critical moments, lobbing with perfection.

"I have come this far, I hope I can go all the way," said Capriati, a year younger than Tracy Austin was when she won in 1979. Capriati is the second-youngest semifinalist in U.S. Open history, three months older than Andrea Jaeger in 1980.

Capriati next plays 17-year-old Monica Seles, a 6-1, 6-2 victor over Gigi Fernandez.

"Using a strategy that worked so well in upsetting Martina Navratilova at Wimbledon, Capriati sneaked in on Sabatini's weak second serves and rocketed them back or disoriented Sabatini enough with her movement and the noise of her skipping feet to cause double faults."

"Capriati did exactly that to break Sabatini in the 11th game of the second set, taking the ball about five feet behind the service line and rapping it back harder than it arrived. On the defensive, Sabatini hit a forehand long to fall behind 6-5 with her third broken service of the set and fifth of the match.

"Overager, perhaps, to finish it off, Capriati couldn't put the match away quite yet. She made

several errors while suffering a break that put the set into a tiebreaker.

At that point, tough, Capriati asserted herself as surely as she had against Navratilova, who was defending her Wimbledon title when Capriati beat her.

Capriati broke Sabatini's first serve in the tiebreaker, won the first four points and made it 5-1 with a beautiful lob into the corner that Sabatini couldn't touch. At match point, Capriati pulled a new weapon out of her burgeoning arsenal, a backhand volley drop that left Sabatini stunned and out.

"Every time I used to play her before, she'd control me," Capriati said. "She would move me side to side with her heavy topspin. I never used to attack her second serve, but now I went in with a different attitude."

Sabatini, who had beaten Capriati in their first six matches, lost only once before — in the Canadian Open last month when she retired with a blister in the middle of the second set.

"I played a very bad tiebreaker," said Sabatini, who lacked the speed, agility and confidence at the net that she showed last year in beating Steffi Graf in the final. "I missed so many balls. I played a little bit short and she was hitting very deep, attacking me, so I didn't have too many chances to come to the net."

Earlier, Seles, still promising to set the tennis world abuzz with her sexy new garb, put off the fashion show to concentrate on reaching the semifinals for the first time in her career.

She wore the same old outfit and had the same old strokes, and

was the same young grunter knocking down the older folks.

The victim this time was Gigi Fernandez, only 27 but still a full decade older than Seles, who barely broke a sweat in winning 6-1, 6-2 in 53 minutes of tedious tennis.

Seles, who won the Australian Open this year and her second straight French Open, is trying to add the U.S. Open to her Grand Slam achievements. Last year, she lost in the third round here, and in 1989 she lost in the fourth round.

Fernandez didn't act much like a serious threat on the court as she sprayed 36 unforced errors in her first match against Seles, who made only 10 errors.

Seles started as if she were out to break the record for fastest match of the tournament, winning the first four games in 12 minutes while not dropping a point on serve against a player appearing in her first Grand Slam quarterfinal.

"I don't think that I was so much nervous or impressed by the event as much as by her game," Fernandez said. "She came out really strong and she was jumping all over my serve, and serving really well."

"She is always fighting and thinking. She is a very smart player, very tenacious, and keeps coming at you. If you look at her you don't think she is a tennis player. She is not built like a tennis player, but her mind just keeps her in there."

Seles agreed totally with that assessment.

"I think all the great players have that," she said. "I mean, Chris, Martina, also Jimmy Connors.

nors, Mac, everybody. I think you have to have that. I mean you can't be a dead person on the court."

A brief lapse in the fifth game and a sudden spate of alert, aggressive net play by Fernandez led to a break of Seles' service at 15-40.

But Fernandez still couldn't cope with Seles' deep returns of service, and Seles came back to close out the set at love with a forehand crosscourt that Fernandez couldn't reach.

Fernandez finally held to start the second set, then held again after five deuces in the third game to make it 2-1. Seles ran into a little resistance with three break points in the fourth game, but pulled out the game and cruised through the next three while dropping only four points.

Serving for the match, Seles again faced a break point but was saved by still another Fernandez mistake, an easy backhand return into the net. Fernandez saved two match points but succumbed on the third with a backhand that

caught the net cord and bounced back.

Meanwhile Stefan Edberg, Jim Courier and Pete Sampras are peaking at the right time. Michael Stich has the talent to win the U.S. Open and Ivan Lendl the will and the experience.

But as the last eight men prepare for quarterfinal battle, the big question at the National Tennis Centre must be: How can mere mortals — even the best tennis players in the world — hope to cope with the seemingly divine resurrection of than Jimmy Connors?

The 39-year-old ageless wonder, who is part magician, part master showman and part warrior of Homeric proportions, has taken the 1991 U.S. Open by storm, leaving the top title contenders to labour in his considerable shadow.

Power tennis may be fashionable these days, but Jimmy Connors is having fun again at the U.S. Open. And there is absolutely nothing more enjoyable for tennis fans than Jimmy Connors having fun on his favourite stage.

"The crowd wins them for me," said Connors, who could make a Bible-thumping Evangelist jealous with his ability to whip a crowd into a frenzy.

"He's a magician, nobody can

bring a crowd to its feet like Jimmy," says long-time rival John McEnroe.

Second seed Stefan Edberg also figures to claim a place in the final four.

The former Wimbledon champion takes on Spaniard Javier Sanchez, the third remaining undefeated player who is surprised and satisfied just to find himself in the quarterfinals.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Working overtime at present may hold you back from communicating with persons who have it within their power to sidle you in what means most to you. Use that brainpower to stay on course.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

Take some time out to let those about you see you are the one who does value and appreciate those confidants and advisors whose suggestions mean so much to you.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20)

Whatever you have in mind that does bring you favour from those who mean a good deal to you is excellent and you are able to repay social obligations.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21)

Look to your close associates for some favour they will do to get you in the good favours of one who has considerable influence where it means the most to you.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21)

Now you are able to gain the good will and active assistance of some persons you have not known before this but who are wise and experienced.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21)

Wherever you feel you do not want to attend to responsibilities can bring you much disfavour and lack of protection so gird yourself for them conscientiously.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22)

That partnership master of

importance you have been putting off should be brought out, decided upon and then quickly put into effective action.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 21)

A fine day to look straightforwardly at the things you have to do and then to get busy and do them in a highly skilled and artistic fashion.

SCORPIO: (October 22 to November 21)

This is the time for you to be sure to get into those special talents with which you are endowed and to make them operate so thoroughly enjoy them.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21)

There are some interesting and ingenious means by which you can gain the good will of your personal contacts by being with them at outlets you both enjoy.



Gabriela Sabatini in action

Man. United stretches lead at the top

LONDON (R) — European Cup Winner's Cup holder Manchester United built up a three-point lead at the top of the English first division with a 2-1 away win over Wimbledon.

Welsh international Clayton Blackmore headed the opener in the 25th minute and defender Gary Pallister stabbed home a second in the 43rd minute.

Wimbledon striker John Fashanu set up an exciting finish when he nodded a goal past United goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel eight minutes from time.

But United held on for its fourth win six games and could even afford the luxury of a missed penalty, defender Steve Bruce hammering his spot kick against the crossbar two minutes from time.

United now has 14 points from six games.

Chelsea went second after a 1-0 win at struggling Sheffield United thanks to a 36th minute goal from Dennis Wise.

Champions Arsenal suffered another disappointing night, having to settle for a 2-2 draw after conceding two goals in the last 24 minutes at Leeds United.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



S. Africans withdraw from events

SYDNEY (R) — South African teams have withdrawn from major cycling and boxing events in Australia and there remains no sign they will compete in the forthcoming Cricket World Cup.

A South African cycling team this week turned down an invitation to compete in next month's Brisbane to Sydney Road Race, despite earlier indications they would be taking part.

In a letter to promoter Phil Bates, the South African Cycling Federation said there had been veiled threats that sports events would be disrupted at home and in countries cycling teams visited.

South African hopes of contesting the World Amateur Boxing Championships in Sydney in November were thwarted after their application for re-affiliation to the International Amateur Boxing Association was rejected late last month.

The plan has angered the 71 lower division clubs who fear

bankruptcy for the breakaway first division clubs, said Tuesday.

"It now looks as if there will be a premier league next August and it will be set up with the almost full agreement of the existing league clubs," he added.

"We are just a fingertip away with a return of just eight points from its first six games.

Sheffield Wednesday striker David Hirst, in the England squad for next week's friendly with Germany, was carried off to hospital after suffering suspected ankle ligament damage at Notts County.

County's Tommy Johnson scored his second goal of the night in the 85th minute to condemn to a 2-1 defeat.

In Scotland, Airdrieonians caused a shock when they knocked Glasgow Celtic out of the

league cup at the quarterfinal stage.

Airdrie, newly-promoted to the premier league, went through 4-2 on penalties after the sides had been locked at 0-0 after extra time.

Airrie have got to the last four the hard way, victory over Celtic following a 1-0 win at Aberdeen in the previous round.

Meanwhile an English soccer premier league looks certain to be in place next season after feuding clubs neared a compromise agreement.

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Financial Markets in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York		Tokyo	
	Close Date 3/9/1991	Close Date 4/9/1991	Close Date 3/9/1991	Close Date 4/9/1991
Sterling Pound*	1.6945	1.6967		
Deutsche Mark	1.7365	1.7353		
Swiss Franc	1.5225	1.5200		
French Franc	5.9005	5.8962*		
Japanese Yen	135.85	135.85		
European Currency Unit	1.7184	1.7184**		

* USD Per STG

** European Opening @ 100 a.m. GMT

Currency	Interest Rates			
	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.62	5.62	5.68	5.93
Sterling Pound	10.75	10.50	10.37	10.43
Deutsche Mark	9.00	9.06	9.25	9.37
Swiss Franc	8.06	8.00	7.93	7.81
French Franc	9.12	9.25	9.31	9.43
Japanese Yen	7.37	7.16	6.81	6.62
European Currency Unit	9.62	9.75	9.75	9.81

Interest bid rates for domestic currency U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent

Previous Month Dates: 4/9/1991

Metal	USD/Oz		JD/Gm*		
	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	349.35	6.80	349.35	3.93	.090

* 24 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Dates: 4/9/1991

Currency	Bid		Offer	
	USD	JD	USD	JD
U.S. Dollar	.689	.691		
Sterling Pound	1.1660	1.1718		
Deutsche Mark	.3964	.3984		
Swiss Franc	.4516	.4539		
French Franc	.1166	.1172		
Japanese Yen*	.5059	.5084		
Dutch Guilder	.3519	.3537		
Swedish Krona	.1092	.1097		
Italian Lira*	.0532	.0535		
Belgian Franc	.01922	.01932		

* For 100

Currency	Bid		Offer	
	USD	JD	USD	JD
Barbados Dollar	1.7800	1.7850		
Lebanese Lira*	.0770	.0780		
Saudi Riyal	.1834	.1841		
Kuwaiti Dinar	-	-		
Qatari Riyal	.1854	.1860		
Egyptian Pound	.2100	.2300		
Oman Riyal*	1.7400	1.7550		
UAE Dirham	.1864	.1880		
Greek Drachma*	.3500	.3600		
Cypriot Pound	1.4950	1.4950		

* For 100

Index	2/9/1991		3/9/1991	
	Close	Close	Close	Close
All-Share	107.55	107.61		
Banking Sector	100.94	100.93		
Insurance Sector	117.32	117.12		
Industry Sector	114.05	114.34		
Services Sector	129.49	128.86		

December 31, 1990 = 100

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

London (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.				
One Sterling	1.6940/50	U.S. dollar		
One U.S. dollar	1.1410/15	Canadian dollar		
	1.7360/70	Deutschmarks		
	1.9545/55	Dutch guilders		
	1.5220/25	Swiss francs		
	35.68/73	Belgian francs		
	5.9000/50	French francs		
	1294/1295	Italian lire		
	135.85/95	Japanese yen		
	6.3025/75	Swedish crowns		
	6.7830/80	Norwegian crowns		
	6.7020/70	Danish crowns		
One ounce of gold	348.70/349.10	U.S. dollars		

Tel: 677420 CONCORD

SQUEEZE

Show: 5:15, 8:30

ZAPPED!

Show: 3:30, 6:45, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 673571 NIJOM

To Be Opened Soon
Nabil Mashini
Theatre

Show: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 p.m.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

TOKYO — Stocks closed easier on profit-taking and arbitrage unwinding following a four-day rising streak. The Nikkei ended down 67.11 at 22,402.69.

SYDNEY — Shares closed barely lower after a burst of enthusiasm caused by Tuesday's official interest rate cut petered out. The All Ordinaries closed 1.7 down at 1566.7.

HONG KONG — Stocks ended softer, dragged lower by sluggish sentiment and subdued trade. The Hang Seng Index closed down 18.62 at 4,006.45.

SINGAPORE — The market closed mixed in nervous trading on renewed rumours that Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong might soon resign. The Straits Times Index ended at 1,426.42, up 1.39.

BOMBAY — Share prices recovered from an early slump to finish mixed in volatile trading ahead of end-account. The exchange index rebounded from a low of 1,739.15 to 1,762.62, but was still down 1.74 points from Tuesday's close.

Tel: 634144 PHILADELPHIA

SKYHIGH

Show: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 625155 RAINBOW

Lalla Elwi, Ahmad Budair

Mamduh Abdul Alim

In

HUSH

(Arabic)

Show: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Australia cuts interest rates in bid to survive

CANBERRA (R) — Australia's Labour government cut interest rates and reassessed its policy Tuesday in what was seen as an attempt to ensure its political survival.

Rocked by recession and instability, the government, in power since 1983, has been floundering in recent months.

It trails the conservatives by about 16 per cent in opinion polls and Prime Minister Bob Hawke, who beat off a challenge by former treasurer Paul Keating in June, has been harassed by disgruntled Keating supporters in his government.

Economists and political commentators said Mr. Hawke's surprise one-two punch to cut official interest rates by one point to 9.5 per cent and reexamine health charges imposed in the Aug. 20 budget.

"This has taken the sting out of Keating and could subdue the leadership debate," said economist Phil O'Sullivan of brokerage firm BZW Australia.

Australia's major banks said they were now considering dropping their politically-sensitive home loan rates, most of which are around 14 per cent for new borrowers.

New Treasurer John Kerin said the rate cut would boost the economy but, in his usual style, was cautious, telling parliament recovery from recession would still be moderate.

The credit squeeze was needed to curb a rise in inflation which had been caused by a credit-driven consumer boom during the closing period of Margaret Thatcher's premiership.

Rates have been progressively lowered since last October as annual inflation has halved from a peak of nearly 11 per cent.

Cheaper money has helped get the economy to bottom out and eases the pain of millions of voters who have monthly repayments to make on mortgage (home) loans — with the result that the government has lately done better in public opinion polls.

Wednesday's seventh cut since mid-February brought bank rates to their lowest since August 1988.

Mortgage lender Abbey National immediately announced a cut of 0.4 per cent in its core rate. Britain's biggest lender on homes, the Halifax Building Society, said it would also reduce rates by an amount to be decided in the next few days.

Independent economists said the government had room for a further cut of 0.5 per cent in base rates before November.

The Confederation of British Industry, forecast in a report on the economy this week that the bottom of the cycle will be reached by year-end.

But Labour and its trade union allies still say Mr. Major will pay a heavy electoral price for high unemployment caused by the recession.

Labour's hope is that the interest rate cut will boost Mr. Hawke's public image and spur business investment to check unemployment, which stood at a seasonally-adjusted 9.8 per cent at end-July.

"I think the motivation for the timing of the easing is political," said Bank of America economist Russell Marder.

Mr. Hawke also hopes the feuding labour factions, the left largely for Mr. Hawke and the right for Mr. Keating, will be placated by the inquiry into health charges he set up Tuesday.

14 reported killed in Yugoslav truce violation

BELGRADE (Agencies) — At least 14 people died in eastern Croatia Tuesday in the worst violation of a Yugoslav ceasefire sponsored by the European Community (EC), hospital officials said Wednesday.

Ten bodies were brought to a hospital in Osijek during the night. Four people, including a 13-year-old girl, were known to have been killed earlier in fighting which included a heavy mortar bombardment of the town centre.

Croatian security forces and the Yugoslav army blamed the other for the outbreak of violence in the town at the centre of an area of ethnic tension close to Croatia's border with its archrival Serbia.

At least two more people were killed in fresh incidents in the breakaway Yugoslav republic during the night, Croatian Radio said Wednesday.

The report said the motorway between Zagreb and Belgrade was cut when Serbian guerrillas and army reservists launched a mortar attack on the village of Kosovac.

Sporadic fighting continued despite a warning by Yugoslav President Slobodan Milošević to the rival forces Tuesday that violations of the shaky ceasefire could have reverberations across Europe.

EC foreign ministers agreed in the Hague Tuesday to open a peace conference with the six Yugoslav republics Saturday.

But the new fighting set back

hopes of an end of the clashes involving Croatian forces, Serbian guerrillas and the Serbian-led Yugoslav army that have killed more than 300 people in Croatia since the republic declared independence on June 25.

"The fact that the (ceasefire) commitments have not been fulfilled, that new acts of destruction and ceasefire violations are being made ... creates new dangers and risks in an already dangerous situation," Mr. Milošević said on state television.

"I call on all opposing sides and individuals to observe the provisions of the ceasefire agreement at once, unconditionally and without delay."

Mr. Milošević said the ceasefire violations called for unspecified sanctions but gave no details.

"The country is facing a great trial and an extremely dangerous risk which could affect all our citizens, all parts of Yugoslavia and even Europe," he said.

Under the ceasefire brokered by the EC, Croatian forces and units of the army are supposed to disengage and guerrilla units are to lay down their arms. But no mechanism for enforcing the truce has been put in place.

Croatian President Franjo Tuđman complained in a letter to the EC Tuesday of "continued aggression" by army units and Serbian guerrillas in his republic.

Colonel-General Marko Negovanović, a member of the military supreme command, denied Mr. Tuđman's accusations and said:

Croatian security forces had attacked army units first.

Croatian Information Minister Branko Salaj told reporters in Zagreb: "The outlook for the ceasefire does not look terribly bright."

Meanwhile Serbs in the northeastern corner of Croatia fired off machine guns Tuesday to celebrate its "liberation," claiming to have seized the area's last two Croat-held villages.

"We'll never be Croatia again," declared Zdravko Mirković, an officer of a Serb civilian defence force in this town in Croatia's Baranja area. The region stretches south from the Hungarian border to Osijek, a Croatian stronghold 230 kilometres east of Zagreb, Croatia's capital.

Mecse and Bile, the last Croatian strongholds in Baranja, fell into Serbian hands less than 30 hours after the European Community announced a new ceasefire agreement for Croatia, the Serbs said.

AP photographer Franz Pammer said he saw Yugoslav Air Force planes bomb Bile, which is just outside Osijek, Tuesday.

Federal forces, whose obedience to central command has been questioned several times in recent weeks, have been widely accused of helping the Serb guerrillas in Croatia at the behest of neighbouring Serbia. Army commanders strongly deny this, saying their forces help keep warring sides apart and fire only



Serbian guerrillas take up positions to fight Croatian National Guards near the village of Borovo Selo in Croatia

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